



# Walberswick Village News

July 2025  
Issue 344

## The future of the Tuck Shop is secure

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Emma Freud and Richard Curtis, the future of the village's beloved Tuck Shop, which has been at its heart for 50 years, has been assured. When the Co-op put the Tuck Shop up for sale, there was huge concern among residents, both for the shop and for the staff who run it. Now the freehold has been secured, Emma and Richard will be renting the property, at a peppercorn rate, to two local shopkeepers, Ben and Gaia Woolnough, a young, enthusiastic husband and wife team from Reydon. For the last eight years, Ben has run Bridgefoot Stores in Reydon, the brilliant well-stocked, eco-friendly shop that really does cater for the local community. We are hoping he and Gaia can create similar magic in Walberswick.

Ben and Gaia have ambitious plans to gradually grow the Tuck Shop into a sustainable, independent, community-focused shop that will thrive in partnership with the village. They plan to stock a carefully chosen range of products that will work for all customers, while focusing on eco-friendly practices. We can look forward to good affordable essentials, well-priced snacks and beverages, and quality fresh produce from trusted suppliers of fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, wine, pies and more. Their vision is for a more attractive, greener shop with more communal space for meeting and chatting, all while still respecting the activities of the deli, village pubs and tearooms. They will also be looking at ways to give back to the community. Ben and Gaia are committed to working with the existing staff to meet the village's needs, and plan to regularly consult customers on stock, services, and priorities.

The 'new' Tuck Shop will hopefully be up and running in the autumn and the village very much looks forward to welcoming Ben and Gaia and supporting them in their latest endeavour. Ben and Gaia can be contacted at [walberswicktuckshop@gmail.com](mailto:walberswicktuckshop@gmail.com) **Editor**

## Don't miss the Horticultural & Culinary Show

Remember it is the Horticultural and Culinary show on Saturday, 19 July. There is still time to plan your entries. The schedule and a page of guidelines and tips are available on the village website. Extra schedules are available if required, plus committee members are always happy to answer your questions.

If, by chance, you are going to the performance of *King Lear* in the church ruins earlier in the day, you will still have plenty of time to join us for tea, cakes, and viewing of exhibits after the play. We are open for viewing from 3pm to 4.30pm. **Betsy Lemmon**

## The Fete is just around the corner

Volunteers are still needed for:

- organising the Treasure Hunt and managing the stall
- helping out in the Cafe
- assisting with moving of tables and chairs in the morning and afternoon.

Anyone Interested in helping in the Cafe, please contact Angie on 07816 575631. Please contact Mitchell on 07745 391711 or at [walberswick.fete@gmail.com](mailto:walberswick.fete@gmail.com) to assist elsewhere.

Thank you to everyone who has already come forward to offer help and support. It means a lot. You make this Fete what it is. **Mitchell Pocock, Fete Chair**

## Congratulations to Mark & Sophie

Congratulations to Mark and Sophie, firstly for the Anchor being named Suffolk Pub of the Year in the National Pub and Bar Awards, and secondly for the award from the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) for preserving the architectural features of their 16th century sister pub, the Swan at Stratford St Mary.

The Swan is modelled on George Orwell's description of his ideal pub, the fictitious Moon Under Water. The Dorbers have made it a modern version that preserves the original Tudor features while sympathetically adding contemporary amenities. The pub is pleasantly located next to the River Stour, so do stop by if you are on the way to or from Walberswick. You will find familiar faces behind the bar. [www.stratfordswan.com](http://www.stratfordswan.com) **Editor**

## Beer and Oyster Festival Saturday & Sunday 2 & 3 August

Enjoy cask & craft beer,  
live music, street food, and  
1,500 Wester Mersea and Orford oysters

*Join us all summer long for alfresco dining in  
our marquee and garden terrace*

*Sip summer cocktails and rosé with  
our seasonal menu full of local and home-grown ingredients*

Booking advised via our website

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

# THE ANCHOR

## A blue plaque for Charles Rennie Mackintosh

The story of Charles Rennie Mackintosh's stay in Walberswick has been well documented and now we have a blue plaque to mark the event. According to *Walberswick, People and Houses 1870-1930* by Edward Wright, in July 1914 the Mackintoshes took a room for the summer at Millside, a guest house, as well as a studio at the harbour. Millside is where the blue plaque is located. War broke out not long after their arrival but the Mackintoshes decided to continue their stay in the village. They moved out of Millside, probably staying briefly at The Blue Anchor before moving to Westwood in Lodge Road. It was here that Mackintosh was famously arrested one evening in June 1915 on false suspicions of spying for the enemy. Following the intervention of well-placed friends, he was released provided he kept away from Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex for the rest of the hostilities.

*Walberswick: People and Houses 1870-1930* by Edward Wright is still available at £15 a copy, of which £10 will be donated to the Walberswick Scroll Restoration Fund. Email Edward at [ewright123@btinternet.com](mailto:ewright123@btinternet.com) if you would like one. **Editor**



Millside as depicted on the Walberswick Scroll. © Walberswick Parish Council

## Walberswick Parish Council

### Annual Audit of the Parish Council

We are delighted to have received another clean bill of health from the internal auditors, with just a couple of good practice recommendations that have already been embraced and actioned. We are indebted to the professionalism of our team in continuing the good governance of the Parish Council and in particular to Simon Ashton, our Responsible Financial Officer, for all

the work he does at this time of year on our behalf to prepare the audit papers.

### Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 14 July 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).

## Walberswick Common Lands Charity

### World War II defences on the beach

As beachgoers will be acutely aware, the shifting landscape of the beach has exposed substantial parts of the 'Admiralty Scaffolding', erected as part of the World War II sea defences from offshore invasion, but now presenting a danger to those already onshore. Fortunately, this exposure has allowed The Crown Estate (which is responsible for this) to deploy contractors to remove much of the rusting metal, with more work to follow in the very near future, hopefully making for a safer beach. **Richard Leiper, Chair**

### Risk of wildfires

Despite the odd thunderstorm, we are currently experiencing a prolonged period of sunny and dry weather, along with quite strong winds. The vegetation has dried out and the risk of wildfires is now very high. So, please be 'wildfire aware' over the coming weeks. Avoid open fires and use BBQs with great care. Please keep them well away from the beach huts, dunes and grassland. **David Pelly, Trustee**

### Environmental Update

Walberswick Common Lands Charity (WCLC) owns around two hectares of saltmarsh, much of which can be

seen from Wally's Bridge. Suffolk Wildlife Trust is helping trustees to look more closely at this ecosystem, especially the vegetation. It mostly looks brown and muddy from the bridge, but on closer inspection, sea lavender, samphire and thrift were amongst the plants which were recorded. Saltmarshes are usually restricted to comparatively sheltered locations in five main physiographic situations: in estuaries, in saline lagoons, behind barrier islands, at the heads of sea lochs, and on beach plains. The development of saltmarsh vegetation is dependent on the presence of intertidal mudflats.

WCLC's focus is to "Maintain coastal saltmarsh in good condition and restore saltmarsh in unfavourable condition where vegetation management is a key factor." It is a site where the best management is low intervention. One thing anyone can do is to avoid disturbance of the site, and reflect on the moon, sun and tides creating conditions in which these plants have developed a variety of tolerance levels to salt, resulting in a mosaic of flora and fauna. Amazing!

**Vanessa Tucker, Environment Stewardship Trustee**

### The Little Wooden Hut

Hooked on crabbing  
in Walberswick

• Crabbing gear galore, including the bait • Ice cream, chilled drinks & coffee while you wait • Buckets, spades & colourful kites • Towels, windbreaks & seaside delights!

"I Caught Crabs at Walberswick"  
t-shirts - only available here. £1 from each sale goes to RNLI & East Anglian Air Ambulance

Open daily from  
1 July  
9.30am-5pm

The Quay, Ferry Rd,  
Walberswick  
(near Wally's Bridge)

07387 980 649  
[hutlittlewooden@gmail.com](mailto:hutlittlewooden@gmail.com)

@littlewoodenhut  
walberswick



## Diary Dates

### 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](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-village-hall).

**Village Hall Committee**



### Village News AGM

**Tuesday, 15 July, 7pm in the Heritage Hut**

The AGM of the Village News is open to members of the public. For further information or should you wish to attend, please email **Edward Wright** at [ewright123@btinternet.com](mailto:ewright123@btinternet.com).

### King Lear

**Saturday, 19 July, 1.30pm in St Andrew's Church**

Circle 67 will be performing a shortened version of *King Lear* in the church ruins. 'Doors' open at 1pm and the performance finishes at around 3pm. Free admission. Bring your own picnics and blankets.

**Mitchell Pocock**

### Horticultural & Culinary Show

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

The schedule is available on the village website, where guidance and tips can also be found. Teas and viewing of exhibits starts at 3pm.

**Betsy Lemmon**

### Family Bingo

**Wednesdays, 6 August, 13 August & 20 August in the Village Hall**

Doors open at 5.30pm, bingo begins at 6pm. Entrance: Adults £1, Children 50p, bingo cards to be purchased separately. Drinks (alcoholic and non alcoholic) and snacks will be available.

**Village Hall Committee**

### Walberswick Village Fete

**Saturday, 23 August, 11am-4pm on the Village Green and in the Village Hall**

Join in the fun. Usual stalls and activities. More information to come.

**Mitchell Pocock**

### WI Monthly Meeting

**Thursday, 4 September, 2.30pm in the Village Hall**

As our July meeting is a visit to Somerleyton and August is the summer break, our next meeting will be in September when the Speaker will be David Kersey of Suffolk Fire and Rescue. Guests welcome.

**Muriel Wortley**

### Planning applications

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

**Orchard House**, The Street (trees) | **Hidden House**, The Green (trees) | **The Anchor** (trees) | **Toby Cottage**, Leveretts Lane | **Manor House**, The Street | | **New camping site** adjacent to the caravan site | **Heron's**, Church Field (new) | **The Pink House**, Seven Acres Lane (new) | **The Pink House**, Seven Acres Lane | **The Beeches**, Millfield Road | **Heron's**, Church Field.

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



## 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)

### July 2025 Services

**Sunday, 6 July 11.15am**

Sung Eucharist

**Sunday, 13 July 6pm**

Summer Sunday Choral Evensong

Book of Common Prayer

**Sunday, 20 July 11.15am**

Sung Eucharist

**Sunday, 27 July 11.15am**

Family Service

10.45am coffee and pastries

**Every Wednesday 10am**

Holy Communion

Coffee on first Wednesday

### Commemorative Flowers

13 July - Brian Tibbles for  
Jayne and Ollie

20 July - Pat Lancaster for her  
husband, Tony

### Parish Register

31 May - Wedding

Robin Andrew Hemingway and  
Alison Susan Burnside

## Community Services

**Community Cafe:** Wednesday

16 July 2pm - 4.30pm  
in the Village Hall

**Mobile Library:** Friday,

18 July 2.15pm - 2.45pm  
in the Village Hall car park

**Norwich Bus:** Thursday,

17 July. 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](http://walberswick-pc-gov.uk)

**WALL:** [www.wall-update.org](http://www.wall-update.org)

**Friends of St Andrew's:**  
[friendsofstandrews.org.uk](http://friendsofstandrews.org.uk)



## Yoga with Emilie

### Breathe. Stretch. Flow.

Join Emilie for a rejuvenating mix of yoga classes designed to support your overall well-being. From energising morning flows to calming evening sessions gently infused with a light touch of Qi Gong and meditation, each class offers a space to reconnect with your body and mind.

Whether you're looking to build strength, improve flexibility, or simply unwind from the day, Emilie's classes are crafted to nourish body, mind, and spirit.

#### Class Schedule:

**Monday**  
6:00 – 7:00 PM  
Evening Flow  
A gentle, grounding class to help you release the day and restore balance.

**Thursday**  
7:30 – 8:30 AM  
Rise and Shine Flow  
An energising start to your day, awakening the body with mindful movement and breath.

9:00 – 10:00 AM  
Slow Flow  
A slower-paced, meditative session ideal for deep stretching and relaxation.

All levels are welcome. Bring a mat, an open mind, and a sense of curiosity.

Booking online:  
<https://bookwhen.com/emsyogaspac>

Contacts:  
instagram: @emsyogaspac\_  
emsyogaspac@gmail.com  
07979 597254

## Bingo!

Family Bingo returns to Walberswick with three evenings of traditional family packed fun as we chase the perfect line and a full house at Walberswick Village Hall.

Bingo evenings will be held on **Wednesday 6th August, Wednesday 13th August and Wednesday 20th August 2025** with cash prizes and a raffle.

Doors open at **5:30pm**, Bingo begins at **6pm**.

Entrance: Adults £1, Children 50p. bingo cards to be purchased separately.

Drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) and snacks will be available on the evening.

So why not treat yourself and all the family to an evening to remember?

All proceeds go to the maintenance and upkeep of the Village Hall.

## Want to hire the Hall?

With the large kitchen and serving hatch, the staging area, the annexe which can fit 30 people, the main hall with seating for 100 and parking, whether you are wanting a meeting, craft fair, party or performance, the Village Hall is here for you.

#### Per 5 hour session.

Non profit: Hall £20     Annexe £16  
Commercial: Hall £90     Annexe £45  
Social Events: Entire Hall Only  
Residents: £75+  
Non-Residents: £200+

For more details:  
[martin.lovick@gmail.com](mailto:martin.lovick@gmail.com)

## Walberswick WI

Walberswick WI has been an active organisation in the Village for 107 years and meets in the Village Hall on the first Thursday afternoon each month. Meetings are very casual and begin with Speakers giving talks on various subjects including Forensic Science, Land Army, and Chocolate making. Then it's tea and biscuits/cake and social time to chat followed by a short update on WI business. Outings each year are to local places of interest such as, Gainsborough House and Henstead Exotic Gardens. We support ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) to help women set up in business to provide for their families. Other Charities we have supported are a women's Refuge and local charities such as Sole Bay Carers.

The daffodils around the Village Sign opposite the Church and bulbs on Stocks Green were the idea of our late President, Marian, and planted by members and villagers. Also the Crab Apple Tree opposite the Church and the Amelanchier Lamarckii tree opposite the Village Hall were planted by the WI.

If you think you would enjoy an afternoon listening to an interesting Speaker and enjoying tea with WI members you are welcome to come along as a guest to any meeting. Details of each month's Speaker are in Village News

Sue Ireland-Cutting, President.

## Village Hall Diary July 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30 Jun	1 Jul 08:00 Pilates and Keep Fit (MH) 18:00 Table Tennis Club (MH & A)	2 08:00 Art and Drawing (MH) 12:00 Post Office van (car park)	3 08:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH)	4 18:00 Horticultural Show (set up) (MH)	5 08:00 Horticultural Show (MH)	6
7 13:00 Bridge (A) 17:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH)	8 08:00 Pilates and Keep Fit (MH) 13:00 Blyth Bridge Club (MH) 18:00 Table Tennis Club (MH & A)	9 12:00 Post Office van (car park) 18:00 NT Live (MH)	10 08:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH) 18:00 NT Live (MH)	11	12	13
14 13:00 Bridge (A)	15 18:00 Table Tennis Club (MH & A)	16 12:00 Post Office van (car park) 13:00 Community Cafe (MH)	17 08:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH)	18 18:00 Horticultural Show (set up) (MH)	19 08:00 Horticultural Show (MH)	20
21 13:00 Bridge (A) 17:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH)	22 13:00 Blyth Bridge Club (MH) 18:00 Table Tennis Club (MH & A)	23 12:00 Post Office van (car park)	24 08:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH)	25	26 08:00 Anglian Potters (MH)	27 08:00 Anglian Potters (MH)
28 13:00 Bridge (A) 17:00 Yoga with Emilie (MH)	29 18:00 Table Tennis Club (MH & A)	30 12:00 Post Office van (car park)	31	1 Aug	2	3



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