Walberswick Village News

June 2026
Issue 355

We're looking for a new editor

After nearly seven years as editor of the Village News, Sheila is planning to swap deadlines for a little more free time and will soon be retiring from the role. The *Village News* plays an important part in keeping villagers informed about local news, events and village life, and we are therefore looking for a volunteer to take over as soon as possible.

The role would suit someone with average computer skills who enjoys writing, organising content and has a good eye for detail. It involves liaising with contributors, preparing each issue, arranging printing and the distribution of the newsletter by email. Sheila will ensure that her successor is fully trained in all aspects of the role before handing over the reins.

If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact Sheila at **walberswicknews@gmail.com** or **Edward Wright** at **ewright123@btinternet.com.**

Presenting our first Gala Night at the Opera from the Royal Opera House: Bizet's Carmen

Following the success of the National Theatre Live, a number of people seemed to like the idea of extending this to opera. Carmen is always popular and hopefully an opportunity to entice a few people who haven't tried opera before. Bring a picnic and a rug and hopefully we'll take them outside. If you prefer a bit more comfort – book a table for four (supplied with chairs, plates, glasses, cutlery) for £8 (only bookable in advance). There will be a pay bar for wine, beer, soft drinks (but you can bring your own). We're also offering a pre-dinner drink – a glass of very nice fizz with canapes (please book in advance). Doors will open at 6pm. The film will begin at 7.30pm with an interval.

Date: Saturday 27 June in the Village Hall
Dress: for a night at the Opera
Tickets: £15, under 21s £10, family £40 (two adults and two under 21s). Tickets and sundries bookable at **ticketsource.com/Walberswick-village-hall.** Enquiries to **operawalbers@gmail.com**. **Village Hall Committee**

Thank you from Lorry

I would like to say a very big thank to all the lovely people who came to my 65th birthday party. It was fantastic that so many special people came to celebrate with me. Also thank you for all the lovely gifts, flowers and fizz. I really hope you all enjoyed yourselves. **Lorry Haslegrave**

Change to bin collections

As from the beginning of June, bin collections are moving to a Tuesday when new recycling rules will also be in place. To help with the changes, East Suffolk County Council has launched a mobile phone app that will indicate which bins are due for collection each week and help you check what can be put into them. You can also opt to receive reminders ahead of bin day and receive alerts if collection has been delayed. Search for 'East Suffolk' in your app store to download the app.

Residents are kindly reminded not to put their bins out too early and to bring them back in promptly once they have been emptied. Bins left lining the streets for long periods are an eyesore and detract from the appearance of our special village. Thank you for helping to keep our community looking tidy and welcoming**. Editor**

WWII defences on the beach

While the remains of some of the WWII defences have now been removed from the beach, a number of structures south of the beach huts remain, creating dangerous hazards, particularly for swimmers. Please take extra care and alert visitors who may be unfamiliar with the beach. The Crown Estate has been notified.

The recent low tides also revealed large areas of peat on the beach. **Editor**

Photos: Julia Sowerbutts



THE ANCHOR

A Date for your Diary: 1 & 2 August
The Anchor Beer & Oyster Festival
Live Music, Street Food, Oyster Bar

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Compiled and edited by Sheila Parry - walberswicknews@gmail.com
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Walberswick Common Lands Charity (WCLC)

Bird song has been tremendous this month. Along Palmers Lane one morning in early May, 13 different calls were heard - everything from chiffchaff and wren to nightingale and wood pigeon.

The common nightingale is particularly evocative, very at home in heath and wood. It features in a delightful new book, *The Book of Birds*, Robert Macfarlane & Jackie Morris (2026), a compendium of 49 declining or endangered species in Britain:

> "Barley bird, will you parley with me? Can we sing a song together, a duet in the twilight? Me in my human voice, you in yours, each entwined with the others? ... Your song's a flickering, liquid, ticker-taping trill; it's bubbles through an upturned bottle, a breathless, full-throttle poem of ebb and flow". (page 195)



Photo: Wikimedia Commons

Of course the singing is all about finding a mate and producing a brood. Please keep to pathways and keep dogs close to help them breed successfully. And be aware that adders too are breeding and roaming across much WCLC land. **Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Director**

Walberswick Parish Council

Parish Council Chair

After five years as Chair of Walberswick Parish Council, Cllr. Lewis stepped down at the Annual Meeting of the Council and Cllr. Whiting was unanimously elected as Chair. Cllr. Lewis was then unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

Speed Indicator Device (SID) Batteries

The current batteries for the village SIDs have very much come to the end of their working life and were only lasting a couple of days. The Parish Council agreed to fund the purchase of two replacement batteries which have now arrived and been installed

Work on the B1387 and B1125 roads

As part of the Sizewell C (SZC) traffic mitigation, the B1387 will be widened and improved between the water tower and the A12. A better turning on to the A12 will also be constructed. Once this work is done, the B1125 going north into Blythburgh will be closed for the remainder of the SZC construction (at least 10-15 years). This is needed to stop SZC workers and contractors 'rat-running' on the B1125. The short-term pain associated with this mitigation, however, is upon us. From 15 June to 27 July, the B1387 will be closed between the water tower and A12. Diversions will be north through Blythburgh or south to Darsham/Westleton/Yoxford. The closure will be in force on weekdays from 7am to 5.30pm. The road will be open at night and weekends, or occasionally traffic light controlled. The Parish Council is working closely with SZC/Suffolk Highways on safety and serious congestion issues that may arise especially as we get into the height of the summer season. Please check the village website for updates.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 8 June 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 the Parish Clerk at **clerk@walberswick-pc-gov.uk.**



Planning Applications

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

- **The Stables**, The Street (2 apps - see village website)
- **Lorne Cottage**, The Green
- **Tinkers House**, Walberswick Rd
- **Green Gates**, The Street
- **Dunwich Bay House**, Stocks Lane
- **Hunters Moon**, Church Field
- **Campsite** (3 apps - see village website)
- **The Tuck Shop**
- **2 Church Lane**
- **Greyroof**, Millfield Road
- **Benwrights**, The Street
- **Long Meadow**, Seven Acres

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

Diary Dates

WI Monthly Meeting

Thursday 4 June, 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Our speaker will be Chris Bales from the Norfolk Police. His talk will be on scams and how to avoid them. All welcome. For more information, contact **Sheilagh Murray** on 07903 353753.

Walberswick Local History Group talk

Saturday 13 June, 7pm in the Village Hall

People and Possessions in Medieval Walberswick: Dr Tom Johnson will be talking about life in medieval Walberswick, based on the extensive research he has undertaken for his book, which is out next year. Seats are on a first come first served basis so no need to email in advance. Members attend free, a guest accompanied by a member will pay £5 on the door. Doors open at 6.30pm. **Walberswick Local History Group**

The Royal Opera House: Bizet's Carmen

Saturday 27 June, 6.30pm in the Village Hall

See notice on page one for full details.

National Theatre Live: All My Sons

Wednesday 8th July, 7pm in the Village Hall

In this acclaimed new production, Bryan Cranston and Marianne Jean-Baptiste star in Arthur Miller's drama about a businessman whose wartime success hides a devastating secret, threatening both his family and the American dream.

Please note this production contains strobe lighting, which may impact audience members with photosensitive epilepsy. 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**

Horticultural & Culinary Show

Saturday 18 July, 3pm - 4.30pm in the Village Hall

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

Walberswick Remembered: echoes of Iran

The April 2001 edition of the *Village News* reported on filming in the village by Anglia Television for an adaptation of *A Line in the Sand* by Gerald Seymour (1999). The plot follows a former MI6 operative in Iran who becomes an informant, exchanging the identities of senior Middle Eastern contacts for immunity from the British government. After Iranian scientists he exposed are killed in a bombing, he enters witness protection in rural Suffolk — until an Iranian assassin tracks him down.

Villagers were advised that, for two weeks, the village would be occupied by heavy vehicles, film crews, and actors. Residents around the Green were warned to expect nighttime disruption caused by scenes involving firearms firing blank ammunition. The Green and its surrounding houses, along with the beach huts and shoreline (which also morphs into Orford Ness) are all clearly recognisable in the finished production.

Although the two-part mini series, starring Ross Kemp, was due to air in September 2001, it was postponed after the 9/11 attacks and was eventually broadcast in June 2004. **Editor**





St Andrew's Church Walberswick

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

June 2026 Services

Sunday 7 June 11.15am
All Age Informal Service
Refreshments at 10.45am

Wednesday 10 June 10am
Holy Communion
Coffee served after the service

Sunday 14 June 6pm
Choral Evensong

Sunday 21 June 11.15am
Holy Communion

Wednesday 24 June 10am
Holy Communion

Memorial Flowers

7 June Gordon Beard for Marian

21 June Brian Tibbles for Jayne and Olley

Community Services

Community Cafe: Wednesday 17 June 2pm - 4.30pm in the Village Hall

Mobile Library: Friday 19 June 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 18 June. To book a place, please contact Mandy Erlenbach on 07590 697575

Village: walberswick-pc.gov.uk
WALL: www.wall-update.org

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