

REPORT TO THE APM 2024 BY THE SCROLL ADVISORY GROUP (SAG) – draft 2

The Walberswick Scroll, it is a unique work of art, 123 feet long, painted by John Doman Turner in 1931-1932. It is an amazing record of the village as it was at that time depicting every house and every noticeboard! It is owned by the Parish Council on behalf of the community and housed in the Heritage Hut.

The Scroll Advisory Group aims to show the scroll to the public twice a year. Since the last APM we showed the scroll to the public in June and October.

However, a new initiative in the last year has been “private showings”. These have been to family members and/or friends who have a history of living in or visiting Walberswick. This specifically targets the Walberswick community whereas public showings attract a mixed audience. The new format has proved to be both fun and instructive with information flowing freely in both directions – so much so that some showings have exceeded the target one-hour slot. Our only regret is that we were unable capture some of the stories discussed during the showings. If you would like to view the scroll this way and can put together a party of up to 15 people then please contact SAG to arrange a date.

We have reported previously about the effects of aging on both the scroll and the showing mechanism. The mechanism is still receiving attention but hopefully we have a solution to the tracking problem. We are continuing to show the scroll as a combination of the real thing and on the screen using our high-definition scan. We would again like to thank Andrew Lewis for his expert advice and work on the problems with the mechanism.

It is not only the scroll that is showing consequences of aging. Some members of our group have had a particularly challenging year. Luckily, as reported last year, we have now got a younger member in the group. If anyone here is interested in the history of the village and would like to join our small group caring for and showing this amazing artwork, please do suggest yourself to us. Just use the Contact Us form on the Walberswick website.

SAG members are: John English (primary contact 07899910967 / johnrenglish@tiscali.co.uk), Sue English, Pat Lancaster, Matthew Parkes, Bill Ungless, and Kay Ungless