

Walberswick Village News

April 2020 | Issue 279

Covid 19 issue 2

Welcome to the first ever 'only available by email' edition of the Village News, as we are unable to distribute paper copies during the current crisis. We have continued to make the newsletter an attachment, rather than part of the body of the main email message, so that it can be easily printed. As usual, please send me your feedback and contributions. Thank you and stay safe. **Editor**

Message from the Walberswick Common Lands Charity

Our normal approach to potential beneficiaries is responsive, we respond when they come to us. In these abnormal times we have now adopted a proactive approach:

1. A Covid-19 team has been established under the chairmanship of Hannah Sutton. The other members are Brian Fisher, Kate Goodchild and Rita Woodcraft. Their job is to identify those who may be vulnerable and reach out to offer assistance. Any assistance is entirely confidential, only those four Trustees will know who has been supported. Contact is via Hannah at: hannahsutton2013@hotmail.com
2. Hannah and her team are liaising with other groups and individuals in the Village who are providing support, plus the Sole Bay Care Fund, to help ensure no-one 'falls through the cracks'.
3. The closure of the outreach Post Office, which is supported by the Charity, means some people may not be able to obtain cash. If this is a problem please contact me at james.darkins@anzac.co.uk or 01502 722110. The Charity may be able to assist you with banking.
4. If there is any other support you believe the Charity could provide, please email our Clerk, Matthew Wetmore at clerkwclc@gmail.com

Finally, the **Heritage Hut restoration**, which was due to commence on 30 March, has been postponed. The Hut Management Committee was very conscious of the negative impact these decisions have on small contractors and the self-employed. They reluctantly concluded the potential Covid-19 risk to workers; plus the risk a part-finished building could be exposed to the elements if sites were closed, was too great.

Best wishes and stay safe
James Darkins, Chairman

Local Heroes

Everyone in the village would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff at **The Tuck Shop**, who are doing an amazing job getting supplies into the village, stacking and restacking the shelves, trying to make sure no one is in need and delivering groceries to the vulnerable. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

**Everyone at the Tuck Shop
You are our Local Heroes**

A Special Walberswick

Thank YOU



We can be heroes everyday

Make sure your neighbours hear the news

Not everyone in the village has signed up for the email version of the newsletter and some people do not have computers. We know many people rely on the Village News for their local updates and we need to make sure that all our news reaches them. If you are aware of anyone who has not received this edition of the Village News, please phone them and give them a news update. This is an excellent opportunity to check your neighbours are well and not feeling too isolated. You can, of course, also forward it to them by email.

Details on page four on how to sign up for the email edition.

Richard Scott 1938-2020

Richard Scott passed away peacefully on 3 March. A full obituary will follow.

Compiled and edited by Sheila Parry - 07500 292148 - walberswicknews@gmail.com

Deadline for next copy - completely unknown, depends on the future

Published by the **Walberswick Village News Committee**

Village Post Office Service closed

The Post Office service in the Village Hall Annexe has closed until further notice.

As of Monday, 30 March, **the Post Office in Southwold** will offer essential services only at the following times:

- Monday, 30 March: 10am - 1pm
- Wednesday, 1 April: 10am - 1pm
- Monday, 6 April: 10am - 1pm
- Wednesday, 8 April: 10am - 1pm

If you cannot get to the Post Office and need cash or help with your banking, please read the message on page one from the WCLC.

Do not visit Sole Bay Health Centre unless they have given you permission to do so

The advice from the surgery remains the same as before. Phone in advance and do not visit the surgery unless invited to do so. Prescriptions can be collected from the dispensary window.

Only emergency dental treatment available

Most dental surgeries are now only offering appointments for emergencies.

Vets are offering reduced services

Vets are reducing both opening hours and staff on duty. Routine appointments have been suspended. Urgent or emergency cases will, of course, be seen as soon as possible. Repeat medication can still be ordered.

Garden waste collection suspended and recycling centres closed

The collection of garden waste has been suspended. When collections recommence, subscriptions will be 'rolled over', which means that a new annual payment will only be required once households have received their full quota of collections.

Black and blue bin collections are not affected and will be collected as normal.

All waste recycling centres are closed, including the ones at Leiston and Lowestoft.

Thank you for cleaning up the road into the village

A big thank you to Håkan Brewitz and Guy Parry who recently litter picked the B1387 from the stables to the village. They collected 12 big black bags of rubbish, including three empty 5-litre containers of cider vinegar, various car parts and far too much fast food packaging.

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK

Update from the Walberswick Community Support Group

The group now has 40 local and willing volunteers on standby to help with shopping, walking dogs, running errands and so on. The volunteers have already been delivering groceries and newspapers, have had a Community iPad generously donated, which is currently keeping an unwell resident in touch with family and healthcare professionals, and some volunteers are phoning folk who are self-isolating to check if they need anything. If you need assistance, contact Liz Green on 01502 724889 email liz.green@mac.com

Extra sources of fresh produce

If you usually get your fresh produce from Wangford Farm shop, you can still do so by placing and paying for your order on a Monday, telephone 01502 578246. Volunteers from the Walberswick Community Support Group will collect and deliver your order on Tuesdays.

The Black Dog Deli will deliver

The Black Dog Deli is now stocking essentials such as bread, eggs, various types of milk, pasta, rice etc. If there is something you can't find locally, Andy will try and get it for you.

The Deli continues to stock its normal range and also offers a tasty range of homemade ready meals, including vegan and gluten free options.

Andy will deliver. Call him on 01502 723925 between 8.30am and 1.30pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

The Anchor has an almost full larder

The Anchor has a very well-stocked larder and can offer most ingredients if anyone in the village is unable to get hold of specific items. Sophie is also in touch with the fish van. If you want to know when it is next in the village or you are after that missing ingredient, text her on 07860 825868.

Bird Song Walk cancelled and The Hide closed

Sadly, the official Bird Song Walk must be cancelled this year, and with immediate effect 'Tony's Hide' is closed until further notice.

On a brighter note, I saw my first Swallow of the spring on Tuesday 24 March, recorded a Firecrest in The Drift and a Bittern has been heard on the Marsh
Stay safe and keep well. **Pat Lancaster**

Ferry closed

Dani has had to close the Ferry until further notice.

Join the NHS Volunteer Responders

Even if you are stuck at home, you can make a difference by signing up to the **NHS Volunteer Responders**. They are looking for 'Check-in and Chat' volunteers, who will provide short-term telephone support to individuals who are at risk of loneliness as a consequence of self-isolation. Find out more by clicking on this [link](#).

Message from the Rev Simon Pitcher

At this time, all of our certainties have been threatened by the critical global state of affairs that we find ourselves in. As the country faces a deeper lockdown, as people are advised to stay at home and stay safe, many are worried about their health, about jobs and finances and the well-being of us all. In the Bible the prophet Ezekiel has a vision of a valley of lifeless dry bones. The story can be found in Ezekiel Chapter 37 verses 1-14. It seems a very fitting image for a world troubled by the coronavirus, an image of things drying up, lifeless and hopeless.

In the dream, the Lord God asks Ezekiel if he believes that these scattered bones can live. In reply, the prophet trusts God that new life is his gift. "O Lord God, you know." The Lord breathes his life giving Spirit over the bones, and with a rattling sound the bones come together, flesh and sinew covers them and the Lord breathes life into a great multitude of people.

This is a vision of all things made new, a vision of God's healing, enabling life giving Spirit. It has been an extraordinary coincidence that during our days of lockdown the spring weather has been beautiful. New life is evident in creation as pollution levels drop, as the fresh air is clean to breathe, as flowers spring up and new leaves bud upon the trees.

Ezekiel's vision is of a God who blesses with new life, who raises us up from the experience of dryness and death, into a people who learn to live as God's people once again. Coronavirus will not last for ever. We will emerge from the experience with a new wisdom and understanding, that life is fragile and precious, and with the evidence that the human spirit is at its best when we care for one another.

Church Matters

St Andrew's Church Walberswick

Team Rector

Rev Canon Simon Pitcher
01502 725424
revsimon63@gmail.com

Ordained Local Minister

Rev Brian Fisher 01502 723023

Church Warden

John Simpson 01502 723384
johnsimpson1109@gmail.com

All services have been cancelled and the Church is closed.

There will be no weddings, baptisms or funerals inside the Church until further notice.

If there is an emergency, or if you need to speak to someone, please contact the above.



Unexpected Beauty at the Time of Corona

by Josie Bassinette (in her private capacity and not as Chair of the Parish Council)

We all know instinctively that the companionship of friends and family and staying upbeat can be the best medicine in the world. But social distancing and 'staying home' has negated the first, and the relentless pounding of the press and social media of bad news, rumours and blaming, has crushed the latter. So I asked the Editor if she would allow me to write an article for each VN to highlight something positive or beautiful from this Time of Corona. So here I am with my first instalment.

There has been much talk of city dwellers riding underground trains and filling parks, and innuendo that somehow "THEY" will bring harm to "US". This was not my experience when I was urgently needed in London on the last weekend before the 23 March lock down. I saw nothing of this frivolous place portrayed in the news. I saw our capital city sadly dark and the owners of small restaurants and shops literally crying on the street as they locked their premises and put the remnants of their shattered dreams into the boot of an Uber.

So where, you ask, is the promised beauty of the title? Well it came that weekend on Mother's Day morning. I went for a run in the bright sunshine through deserted streets. Towards the end of my run, I went over the 'Wobbly Bridge' from the South Bank towards St Paul's and saw a sight that I thought somewhat miraculous. There was a family with a little girl at that age when her tiny legs can barely hold her upright. She was actually toddling on her own across this bridge by her parents' side. Never would a toddler be able to even stand on the Wobbly Bridge, much less walk, without being trampled by rushing commuters and selfie shooting tourists, cyclists and buskers. But there she was, walking by herself and proud as anything. It was just a small, joyous moment that I am determined to keep as a reminder that there is some beauty to be found in all of this.

Calling the Children of the Village

We have an exciting competition for you.

We would like you to make your own drawing based on the wonderful picture on the right from Charlie Mackesy. Charlie is an artist, and the famous author of the best-selling book, *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*. Because Charlie thinks we live in the best village in the world, he has created the drawing especially for you, and we want you to copy it. We have four categories in the competition based on your age:

- (1) under 5
- (2) 5 to 7
- (3) 8 to 12
- (4) 13 to 16

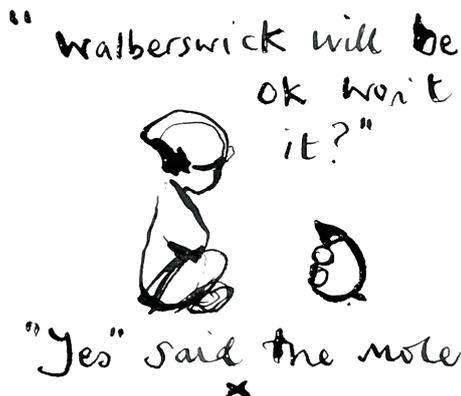
Charlie will judge the competition, and the winner in each category will receive a framed print of his special Walberswick competition drawing, signed by him. You may, however, have to wait a little while for your prize until times become a bit more normal.

All entries will be displayed in the Gallery section on the Walberswick Village website.

How to enter

1. You can only enter if you live in Walberswick.
2. Make a drawing of Charlie's illustration (no tracing allowed - Charlie will know). On page 5 of the newsletter is a large version for you to use as a guide. Add colour if you wish.
3. Clearly write your first name only (no surname) and your age at the bottom of the picture.
4. Take a photo or a scan of your drawing and email it to me, the editor of the Village News, at walberswicknews@gmail.com. Please include your full name and address in the email, which will remain confidential.
5. Your entry must reach me by the end of the Easter weekend: **6pm on Monday 13 April 2020**.

We will announce the winners just as soon as Charlie has judged the competition.



Bigger picture on the next page for you to print

Bird Quiz

The answers are the names of different birds (and may be phonetic)

1. A bad sailor dreads it
2. Woman in the office
3. Shaving account
4. Monarch with rod and line
5. This cat's no dozer
6. Obsolete coin in bad condition
7. Free time pursuit
8. Blowin' a bit
9. Architect
10. Result of beating Col Bogey by three

Answers at the bottom of the page.

Recruit villagers to sign up to the email version of the Village News

During the current crisis, the Village News cannot be distributed in its usual paper form and the email form is the only alternative. Please spread the word. To register, go to the [Village website](#) and click on the news item about the e-newsletter. The link in that report will take you to the sign-up form. Alternatively, email the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com

Appeal to pick up dog mess

A medium to large size dog has recently been leaving deposits around the village, particularly in Seven Acres Lane. Will its owner please do the decent thing and pick it up and place it in one of the bins provided.

The Blackshore, River Blythe Peter Henry Emerson, 1888

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 10. Eagle | 5. Kittiwake |
| 9. Wren | 4. Kingfisher |
| 8. Puffin | 3. Razorbill |
| 7. Hobby | 2. Secretary Bird |
| 6. Guineafowl | 1. Nighthawk |



"Walberswick will be
OK won't
it?"



"Yes" said the mole
x