

Walberswick Village News

January 2022 | Issue 302

Happy New Year

A celebration of Carols on the Green

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the joyful 'Carols on The Green' evening. A cold evening, a huge moon and a beautiful Christmas tree made the perfect setting for a burst of carol singing led by Harry Edwards and accompanied by John Flack's brass band. Thanks to those who erected the Christmas tree, the helpful folk who decorated it, the carol organisers, the band, all the villagers, visitors and children who (mostly) tunefully joined in the carol singing, as well as the providers and dispensers of mulled wine and mince pies, and of course Santa bearing gifts for the kids. Special thanks to Hannah Sutton for arranging Santa's visit and organising the children's presents. Just under £330 was collected in donations in aid of the East Anglian Children's Hospices. **Editor**

Photo courtesy of Tony Langham



Cancer Research update

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the people who have supported Cancer Research this year. Between card sales, donations, and donations in lieu of sending Christmas cards we have raised a total of £1,140 to send to Cancer Research UK. A big thank you to all who were willing to participate in the Mini Market which unfortunately had to be cancelled. We hope to be back up and running in 2022.

Betsy Lemmon

Along for the ride

If you missed the scenes with Emma Webb of The Little Wooden Hut and ferry lady, Danni Church, in the Channel 4 series, *Along for the Ride*, you can catch up at tinyurl.com/ycyvybtd. The series features the comedian David O'Doherty, who in this episode cycles with a friend from Ramsholt to Southwold. **Editor**

Thank you from the children

The children of the village would like to say a huge thank you to the anonymous bidder, who won the silent auction of the original Charlie Mackesy Christmas picture. Also, thank you to Charlie for donating his beautiful drawing. The silent auction raised £2,222 and will be used to take the village children, who have missed out on so many activities since the start of the pandemic, on an excursion.

We are delighted that the drawing went to someone with strong connections to Walberswick. The recipient has a house in the village, his parents spent their honeymoon here, and he has enjoyed family holidays in Walberswick since he was a child. The drawing will be dedicated to the memory of his late brother, who also had a deep love for the village.

Liz Green & Sheila Parry

Misuses of the Bailey Bridge

A recent letter to *The Times* (27 November 2021) from Peter Felden from Box in Wiltshire describes how he and his brother discovered they could squeeze their cars across the Bailey Bridge, making the crawl from the Harbour Inn to The Bell far quicker. The feat was achieved first in his brother's 1932 Austin 7 named Boadicea, and later in his own 1959 Austin Mini. Their great joy was that their richer friends with their wider cars, including Mini Coopers with big wheels, had to go the long way round. The authorities responded with wooden, then concrete posts, both of which ended up in the river. Concealed constables finally slowed them down. **Editor**

The Anchor

Happy New Year & heartfelt thanks to all who continue to support us

We continue to offer our 'Plan B' table service in the bars, dining room and heated marquee, regulations permitting, and ask that you wear masks when moving around inside.

Please see our website for the latest foodie events

info@anchoratwalberswick.com | 01502 722112

www.anchoratwalberswick.com

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

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Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

Good progress continues to be made in defining the key elements that will make up the core of the NDP, and identifying the elements that we believe we will need external professional expertise. These include assessments of the following: (1) Landscapes (both natural and designed). (2) The built environment (including 'character assessments' of every street in the village). (3) Housing needs assessment (including affordable housing). (4) Safe Spaces (traffic). An application for a grant to cover all the costs of this external input has now been made. More information on the NDP can be obtained from the Parish Clerk at walberswickclerk@gmail.com

New Parish Councillor

It was very pleasing to receive a number of applications from excellent candidates for co-option to the vacant position of Parish Councillor (after several years where it was difficult to get anyone to come forward), and we are delighted to announce that Vanessa Tucker was successful and co-opted at our December meeting. This brings the Parish Council back to its full complement of seven councillors.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 17 January, at 7pm in the Heritage Hut. It is open to members of the public, who may either choose to attend in person or join remotely (via Zoom). The agenda and how to join remotely, will be published on the Walberswick Village website. For further information please contact the Parish Clerk at walberswickclerk@gmail.com.

Eyes on the night sky

With the festive season over and the Christmas lights put away, it is time for the return of Walberswick's dark night sky. We live in one of the best places for stargazing, for experiencing the magical sights of the stars and the planets, provided the night skies are not ruined by light pollution. So please, close your curtains and turn off unnecessary outside lights. The light from distant stars and galaxies takes hundreds, thousands, even millions of years to reach us. What a tragedy to lose it in the last millisecond of its journey. **Editor**

Walberswick remembered: General Wilson's rear light

Walberswick had a substantial population of 'retired military' in the 1950s and one senior officer of the period was General Wilson, who lived in Millfield Road. He was a great keep-fit enthusiast and was keenly interested in road safety.

Keeping fit involved taking long walks every day at a brisk pace, one of which generally took place after dark. Fearful of getting mown down in his octogenarian prime (no reflective armbands in those days), the General devised a personal rear light, attached to his coat-tails and fed from a battery in his pocket.

The rear light caused some amusement in the village, as night traffic was not heavy. Yet dangers lurked: MOTs were then undreamed of, and several local cars had dim headlights and ineffective brakes. There was also the prevailing and widely held belief that one's skill at the wheel was greatly enhanced with a few pints of Adnams under the belt.

Perhaps one should pay more attention to personal illumination today.

The Village News, Issue 3, March 1997. p.3

If you have a 'Walberswick Remembered' anecdote that you would like to share with the village, please send it to walberswicknews@gmail.com

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

WALBERSWICK.SUFFOLK.GOV.UK

Planning applications

At the time of publication, the following properties were still awaiting a decision on their planning applications:

- 2 Manor Close
- Bell Cottage, Ferry Road
- Parish Lantern, The Green
- Blinkers, Seven Acres Lane
- Mill Cottage, The Street
- Seacroft, Millfield (trees)
- Hedgeley, The Green
- Elfinston Corner, Stocks Lane
- Orchard Piece, Lodge Road (planning appeal)
- Paules Fenn, The Street

For the latest applications and full details, go to the Planning page on the [Village Website](http://www.village-website.co.uk). The Planning Advisory Group reports, are at tinyurl.com/tdbvulf

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Diary Dates

WI Meeting: * CANCELLED*

Thursday, 6 January, 2.30pm in the Village Hall

Due to the current uncertainty regarding the spread of Omicron, the Committee has reluctantly decided to cancel the January meeting. Hopefully, things will become clearer in the New Year and we can get back to our usual monthly meetings. **Muriel Wortley**

Festival of Lesson & Carols

Sunday, 9 January, 6pm in St Andrew's Church

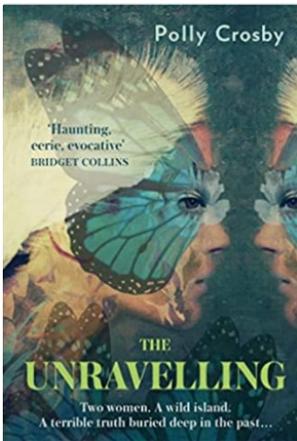
A repeat of Gin & Sing without the gin. **Julia Josephs**

Village News AGM

Thursday, 20 January, 6pm via Zoom

The AGM of the Village News Committee will take place via Zoom at 6pm on 20 January. Members of the public are welcome to attend and there will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end. If you would like to attend, please email **Edward Wright** at ewright123@btinternet.com.

Polly's second novel now available



Last year, we heard from Polly Crosby's parents, villagers Kate and Toby Robinson, about the disappointing publication delays to Polly's debut novel, *The Illustrated Child*, due to the pandemic. It was eventually published in October 2020 but Polly missed out on much of the excitement that goes with the launch of a first book. Now Polly, who grew up in Walberswick, will see her second novel, *The Unravelling*, published in early January in the UK. *The Unravelling* is an historical mystery, set on a wild and uninhabited island off the Suffolk coast. Polly's island was inspired by Orford Ness; the feeling of unease it invokes as well as the remarkable way nature can cover up man's scars.

Signed copies of *The Unravelling* will be available at Southwold Books from early January, which will have a special window display for Polly. *The Unravelling* is also available from tinyurl.com/polly. It has already been published in Australia, New Zealand and the US. **Editor**

Happy Retirement Mik

The village will miss its long-standing and helpful postie, Mik Carr, who hung up his mail bag for the last time just before Christmas. A familiar character in the village, Mik with his cheery smile, chat and banter, has been delivering Walberswick's post for over 12 years. Mik claims the biggest challenges he faced in his time delivering post to over 370 houses in the village were keeping track of residents who moved to multiple addresses in the village, and figuring out where to deliver post addressed to house names that had been changed, sometimes decades previously. Nicknamed 'Mikey Bickie' by households with canine residents, Mik attributes his habit of always having dog treats to hand as the reason he never once had a problem with the village dogs.

Mik plans to return to Northumberland, his home county, in the new year. We thank him for looking after our post for so many years and wish him a long and very happy retirement. **Editor**



Church Matters

St Andrew's Church
Walberswick

Team Rector

Rev Canon Simon Pitcher

01502 725424 revsimon63@gmail.com

January 2022 Services

Sunday, 2 January, 11.15am

Epiphany Sung Eucharist
Celebrant Revd Margaret King

Sunday, 9 January, 6pm

Epiphany readings & carols
Canon Simon Pitcher to lead

Sunday, 16 January, 11.15am

Epiphany 2 Sung Eucharist
Celebrant Revd Judy Miller

Sunday, 23 January, 11.15am

Epiphany 3 Family Service
Canon Simon Pitcher

.....
Every Wednesday, 10.00am

Holy Communion
.....

Commemorative Flowers

9 January - John & Denise Brentnall for
Ralph & Margaret Erskine

16 January - Judy Morton for her
parents, Bill & Olive Quenzer

17 January - Pat Atherton for her sister,
Betty Abnet

Parish Register

6 December - Heather Hyne aged 93
Funeral Service & Burial

Community Services

Mobile Library: Friday, 7 January,
2.15-2.45pm,
Village Hall car park

Post Office: Tuesdays, 1pm-3pm,
Thursdays, 10am-12 noon,
Village Hall Annex

Norwich Bus: Thursday, 20 January.
Departs at 9am & returns at 1.30pm.
Booking essential.

Phone or text Mandy Erlenbach on
07590 697575.

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 February 2022. The copy deadline is 25 January 2022 and submissions should be sent to the editor at walberswicknews@gmail.com

Walberswick Groups & Organisations

Organisation/Group	Contact	email	Telephone
Blyth Estuary Partnership	Richard Steward	rrsteward@btconnect.com	01502 723823
British Legion	Vacant		
Children's Group	Hannah Suttton	hannahsuttton2013@hotmail.com	07902 505954
Church Choir	Julia Josephs	julijos84@hotmail.com	01502 722828
Community Support Group	Liz Wagstaff Green	liz.green@mac.com	07710 031503
Drama Productions	Clive Brynley-Jones	barnaby.bj@btinternet.com	01502 724592
Duplicate Bridge Club	Vivien Hunt	alvvhunt@btinternet.com	01502 723142
Friends of the Heritage Hut	John English	johnrenglish@fiscali.co.uk	07899 910967
History Group	Pat Lancaster	patlancaster@btinternet.com	01502 724268
Horticultural Show	Betsy Lemmon	teachingtrends@hotmail.com	01502 722384
Monday Bridge Club	John Weston	weston559@btinternet.com	01502 722584
Parish Council	Andrew Lewis (Chair) Mark Knight (Clerk)	andrew.wpcouncillor@gmail.com walberswickclerk@gmail.com	
Prescription Collection	Pat Lancaster	patlancaster@btinternet.com	01502 724268
RNLI	Jonathan Winyard	jons1925@hotmail.com	07865 659510
Scroll Advisory Group	John English	johnrenglish@fiscali.co.uk	07899 910967
Sole Bay Care Fund	Rita Woodcraft	frankwoodcraft136@btinternet.com	01502 722958
St Andrew's Church	Rev Simon Pitcher	revsimon63@gmail.com	01502 725424
Village Fete	Jacki Neeves (Secretary) Alex Godfrey	ineeves6@gmail.com alexgodfrey@outlook.com	
Village Hall	Clive Brynley-Jones (Chair) Vivien Hunt (Secretary) Bill Willison (Treas./booking)	barnaby.bj@btinternet.com alvvhunt@btinternet.com wwill16016@aol.com	01502 724592 01502 723142 01502 725244
Village News	Sheila Parry	walberswicknews@gmail.com	07500 292148
Walberswick Amateur Dramatic Society (WATS)	Judy Morton	Judy.mortonmp@gmail.com	01502 724572
Walberswick Common Lands Charity	James Darwins (Chair) Matthew Wetmore (Clerk)	james.darwins@anzac.co.uk clerkwcl@gmail.com	07714 415 372 07760 382 628
Walking Group	Guy Parry	parry.guy@gmail.com	07775 512995
Website	Kay Ungless	admin@walberswick.suffolk.gov.uk	
WhatsApp Group	Guy Parry	parryguy@gmail.com	07775 512995
Women's Institute	Muriel Wortley	muriel.wortley@btinternet.com	01502 724443

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