

**WALBERSWICK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PARISH MEETING**  
**21 MAY 2025**

In November 2025 the following members were elected to serve on the committee

President: Sue Ireland-Cutting

Treasurer: Debbie Tipple

Secretary: Sheilagh Murray

Programme, Speakers, Outings: Betsy Lemmon

Catering: Sue Flack

Register/Donations: Kate Goodchild

During the year we enjoyed a number of interesting Speakers on various topics, there is always something for everyone.

Edward Wright enlightened us on the History of Walberswick. One of our members Stephanie Simmonds demonstrated how to pot up a succulent trough and large planter with colourful flowers. Lou Welton from the Pear Tree Centre in Halesworth, explained to us how the centre operates and advised they produce a monthly Newsletter for those interested. Our summer outing was to Somerlayton, it was a lovely sunny day and we enjoyed walking around the gardens and the house proved very interesting. David Kersey from Suffolk Fire and Rescue talked about the dangers within our own home and how to avoid them. Helen Bygrave told us about how diabetes affects many thousands here in the UK and globally. She also spoke about her work with Medecins Sans Frontieres. David Naylor from RSPB Minsmere entertained us with his stunning photographs of birdlife found here in Walberswick and beyond, interestingly, we discovered the organisation was founded by a woman, Emily Williamson in 1889. In December we had our usual afternoon tea Christmas party, with delicious treats provided by the members and a quiz which was fun. In January we once again went to the Angel in Wangford for our members lunch. Irene Von Zon from Clinks Care Farm talked to us about the opportunities they provide for disadvantaged people to help on the farm and work with animals and the shop which sells all their produce. We were told about the Halesworth Witches of 1645 by David Wollweber. The World of Fashion was brought to Walberswick by John Walford who grew up in the village and known to many. Members brought old garden tools when Mary Carter of TWAM (Tools With A Mission) talked about their work in recycling and refurbishing tools.

We look forward to a full and varied programme for the rest of 2026 and already busy planning for 2027.

Sadly last year we lost our dedicated and much-loved Secretary Muriel Wortley, she is greatly missed by us all.

Following our Annual Subscription renewal we welcomed 3 new members and now have 29 Ladies attending Walberswick WI

Sheilagh Murray

Secretary

Walberswick WI