

SCROLL ADVISORY GROUP
REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
ON WEDNESDAY 10TH MAY 2023

For those of you who don't know 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!

The Scroll Advisory Group have continued to show the scroll to the public twice a year and interest in seeing it and listening to the related stories continues.

We have reported before on the Scroll's chequered history and last year we explained that we were worried by the deterioration of the 90 year old paper. We were also experiencing problems with the tracking mechanism.

We are pleased to report the completion of initial restoration work on the paper. This was carried out by an expert Paper Conservation and Collections Care Consultant. The problem with the mechanism continues but these are being addressed and we hope to report a good outcome this time next year.

We are continuing to show the scroll as a combination of a short section of the real thing and on the screen using our high-definition scan. This provides the best of both worlds. Nothing beats seeing the real thing but the digital version allows examination of details and easier viewing for the audience.

We would like to thank the WPC, and in particular Andrew Lewis, for their continued support over the last year. Andrew has also kindly provided expert advice and work on the problems with the mechanism and has been most supportive.

When we received the quotation for the restoration work, the WPC generously offered to cover this while we raised the necessary funds. In the end, by the time we received the invoice, thanks particularly to three very generous donors, we had raised the required amount and more. We are now in a healthy position to cover further vital conservation work. We would like to thank all the people who donated money or who bought cards and books. We would also like to thank the WLHG for supporting the extremely interesting lecture given by the Conservator during her time in Walberswick.

Finally we would like to report an addition to our small group. We are very pleased to tell you that Matthew Parkes has agreed to join us. Matthew ticked all the boxes when we considered succession planning. He is not only much younger than the rest of us but has connections with the village going way back.

SAG

2 May 2023