



# Walberswick Village News

January 2025 | Issue 338

Happy New Year

## Congratulations Deborah

Huge congratulations to Deborah Mattinson, who has been nominated for a life peerage by Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer. She was formerly Sir Keir's director of strategy and co-founder of BritainThinks. Deborah will be known as Baroness Mattinson of Darlington, sadly not Baroness Mattinson of Walberswick. **Editor**

## What a generous village

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Red Oak Primary School** hampers. Your donations ensured that 35 children in Lowestoft had a better Christmas. **Esme Richardson.**

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the **Cancer Research UK Christmas Fayre**, and especially to our enthusiastic volunteers, who so generously gave up their time to run stalls and collect donations, to make wreaths, crafts, and cakes, provide refreshments, staffed the door, and to help tidy up. And thanks to the many people who provided donations, and who turned up on the day to enjoy the atmosphere, refreshments with friends, and generously got into the spirit of things by buying items, supporting the raffle and bottle tombola, and bidding in the auction. We raised £5,726. **Guy & Sheila Parry**

A huge thank you to everyone involved with **Carols on the Green**. John and his amazing band accompanied us in some beautiful carols; Harry for leading the service; all the bucket shakers; Marie, Sue and Lee for serving the mulled wine and washing up; and you, the community, for donating the mulled wine and mince pies. Also our thanks to Brian and the Christmas tree team for putting up the tree. There are so many people to thank, I have probably missed a few, so sorry. I will be passing on the donation of £234.06 to the **Sole Bay Care Fund**. **Hannah Sutton**

**Yoxford & Peasenhall Primary School PTA** is extremely grateful for the donations received for their Christmas Fayre. The funds raised are used in many different ways and certainly benefit the whole school so many, many thanks. **Marie Ruth**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the **RNLI** this year by signing the Christmas Card List held in the Tuck Shop. The amount raised was £175. **Pat Lancaster**

Thank you for the donations made on the beach on Christmas Day to the **RNLI**. A fantastic total of £750.60 was collected. **Jon Winyard**

## A Moment in Time

The Walberswick Local History Group is planning an exhibition on Saturday & Sunday 5 & 6 April (10am – 4pm each day) to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Millennium in the village. It will include, amongst other things such as the Village News, the Millennium record of all the houses in the village, the Millennium Breakfast photographs and the Auction of Panels painted by local artists that were auctioned for charity. If you are lucky enough to be the owner of any of the panels, I would love to hear from you.

If you have any photographs or memories that you would be willing to share (I will return them), please contact **Pat Lancaster** at [patlancaster@btinternet.com](mailto:patlancaster@btinternet.com).

## The Real Inspector Hound

Cure those post Christmas blues with an evening (or afternoon) of sparkling wit and murder mystery as Walberswick's Players present Tom Stoppard's pretension-pricking, cliché-chaffing farce, *The Real Inspector Hound*. Performances in the Village Hall from Thursday 6 February through to Saturday 8 February at 7.30pm, with an additional matinee on Sunday 9 February at 2.30pm. Tickets now on sale from the Tuck Shop (Co-op) in Walberswick, or on-line from [ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-players](http://ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-players). **Rod Lynch**

## New Year, New Flow

Starting on Thursdays from 2 January, 9 – 10am, new Slow Flow Yoga at Walberswick Village Hall with village resident, Emilie. Start your day with an uplifting slow flowing yoga class. This session connects breath with movement, guiding you through a series of fluid poses that build strength, flexibility and focus. The smooth connecting transitions help you wake up your body, release any stiffness and set a positive tone and intention for the day ahead. Whether you're new to yoga or have experience, this class offers a balanced and refreshing way to start your day. First class free, thereafter £12 per session. Use firstclassfree in the discount box. Booking essential at [www.bookwhen.com/emsyogaspace](http://www.bookwhen.com/emsyogaspace) or for more information email **Emilie Dadswell** at [emsyogaspace@gmail.com](mailto:emsyogaspace@gmail.com).



## The Anchor

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## Walberswick Common Lands Charity

What a real treat to be able to witness the incredible acrobatics of starlings here on our doorstep. These birds are on the red list, so an endangered species, but you wouldn't know it as thousands gather at the end of the day before funnelling down to roost as the light fades from the sky. A minor miracle, the murmuration remains a little-understood spectacle; hopefully one that continues to be visible here in Walberswick well into the New Year.

January and February will see plenty of winter maintenance work on the Common as access is improved and the contractors undertake annual developmental and maintenance work to maintain this special habitat. Removing gorse, bracken and birch is the backbone of this work, with a view to opening up the landscape to heather and grass and other flora to create a mosaic of vegetation by type and age to maximise its attractiveness to invertebrates and birds.

The reedbed over by the windpump is also being harvested to give some more open habitat space - variety being the key. Work is also underway to maintain and replace the picket fencing protecting the marram grass and dunes alongside the beach huts and coastal path. Please help us to keep these in good order - wild and natural.

**Vanessa Tucker, Environmental Stewardship Trustee**



Photo: Vanessa Tucker

## Walberswick Parish Council

### Parish Council Budget 2025/26

At the December meeting of the Parish Council, the final budget for 2025/26 was approved and this included a precept (the element of the annual Council Tax bill that goes to the Parish Council) of £20,000. The Parish Council is delighted to say that this is now the fifth year in a row that it has been able to approve a zero increase in the precept for Walberswick. For the 2025/26 year (based on the latest information from East Suffolk Council on how Council Tax will be charged in 2025/26), this will result in a charge of £36.19 for a Band D property, representing a 32.2% **reduction** on the Council Tax bills against the Parish element.

### Public meeting 16 January 2025 – Proposed Article 4 direction in Walberswick

East Suffolk Council (ESC) is considering the introduction of an Article 4 direction in part of the Walberswick Conservation Area. An Article 4 direction means that planning permission is required for certain physical changes to single residential properties that would usually be permitted. ESC would like to invite residents to a public meeting to introduce the proposals and seek feedback. The public meeting will be held at 7pm on 16 January 2025 in Walberswick Village Hall and further details can be seen here: [walberswick.onesuffolk.net/news-posts/news/view/825](https://walberswick.onesuffolk.net/news-posts/news/view/825).

### Defibrillator at the Co-op

Following use of the defibrillator at the Co-op in recent months, there has been a question raised as to whether the current defibrillator can continue to be used. We are pleased to have obtained confirmation that the defibrillator has now been re-set and re-installed in its cabinet so is still currently available for use. However, it does appear to be coming to the end of its normal life, and the Parish Council is currently investigating ways to ensure that a replacement can be funded if it is needed. There will be more updates on this in due course.

### Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 13 January at 7pm in the Heritage Hut and is open to members of the public. Full details will be published on the village website, or for further information contact the Parish Clerk at [clerk@walberswick-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@walberswick-pc.gov.uk).

### Tuesday Morning Mat Pilates with Coral All abilities & experience welcome Walberswick Village Hall

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### Planning applications

At the time of publication, the following properties were awaiting a decision:

**Pebbles**, The Lea | **Ferry House/Taystone**, Ferry Road (trees) | **Telephone Call Box**, The Green | **1 Moorside**, Palmers Lane | **Tower Cottage**, Palmers Lane | **The Beeches**, Millfield Road | **Hérons**, Church Field

The latest applications & Advisory Group Reports, can be found on the Walberswick [website](https://walberswick.onesuffolk.net).

## Jan Etherington's plays in aid of the Pear Tree Fund

Jan Etherington's two audio plays that show the impact of life-changing illnesses on both patients and carers will be performed at The Cut, Halesworth on 18 January at 2.30pm and 7.30pm to raise funds for the Halesworth-based charity, the Pear Tree Fund. The charity, of which Jan is a patron, offers support and advice to the seriously ill and their families.

*The S.H.I.T. Club* (Supporting Husbands in Trauma) eavesdrops on three women with extremely sick husbands, who meet, cry and laugh together. It was performed at INK and at Latitude. *You'll be Fine* was commissioned by the Pear Tree Fund to show the need to listen to a loved one's wishes and needs. It is based on Jan's friendship with Lynda Bellingham, who died in 2014. It was performed at INK. Tickets are £12 and can be booked via The Cut's website at [tinyurl.com/ycxfyk7u](http://tinyurl.com/ycxfyk7u). **Jan Etherington**



## Diary Dates



### WI monthly meeting

**Thursday, 2 January, 2.30pm in the Village Hall**

Coral Stebbings, who offers weekly pilates classes in the village hall, will be discussing and demonstrating how this low impact form of exercise offers a safe and effective way to improve balance, flexibility, joint health, and core strength. Visitors and new members welcome. **Muriel Wortley**

### Walberswick Evensong Choir

**Sunday, 12 January, 6pm in St Andrew's Church**

Walberswick Evensong Choir will be commemorating Epiphany with rousing music, including favourite hymns. All welcome.

**Julia Josephs**

### Public meeting on proposed Article 4 direction

**Thursday, 16 January at 7pm in the Village Hall**

East Suffolk Council are considering the introduction of an Article 4 direction in part of the Walberswick Conservation Area and would like to invite residents to a public meeting to introduce the proposals and seek feedback. **Parish Council**

### Jan Etherington's plays in aid of the Pear Tree Fund

**Saturday, 18 January at 2.30pm & 7.30pm at The Cut, Halesworth**

See notice at the top of the page for details. **Jan Etherington**

### The Real Inspector Hound

**Thursday, 6 February to Saturday, 8 February at 7.30pm and Sunday, 9 February at 2.30pm in the Village Hall**

The Walberswick Players perform the Tom Stoppard farce. Tickets at £10 are available online from [ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-players](http://ticketsource.co.uk/walberswick-players) or from the Tuck Shop. **Rod Lynch**

The fabulous new boardwalks that form part of the Aldeburgh to Hopton-on-Sea stretch of the King Charles III England Coast Path. There is even a mysterious 'passing place'.



## Church Matters

### St Andrew's Church Walberswick

**Team Rector**

**Revd Russ Gant**

[russ.gant@solebayteamministry.co.uk](mailto:russ.gant@solebayteamministry.co.uk)  
[solebayteamministry.co.uk](http://solebayteamministry.co.uk)

### January 2025 Services

**Sunday, 5 January 11.15am**

Sung Eucharist

Joined by Blythburgh

**Sunday, 12 January 6pm**

Choral Evensong

**Sunday, 19 January 11.15am**

Sung Eucharist

**Sunday, 26 January 11.15am**

Family Service

10.45am coffee and pastries

**Every Wednesday 10am**

Holy Communion

Coffee on first Wednesday

*Note: No service on Wednesday  
1 January*

### Parish Register

**29 November - Funeral**

Leia Sampson-Grimbly

Age 17 years

### Commemorative Flowers

**5 January** - Denise Brentnall for Margaret & Ralph Erskine

**12 January** - Pat Atherton for her sister Betty Abbnnet

**19 January** - Judy Morton for her parents Olive and Bill Quenzer

## Community Services

**Community Cafe:** Wednesday, 15 January, 2pm-4.30pm in the Village Hall.

**Mobile Library:** Fridays, 3 & 31 January & 2.15pm-2.45pm, Village Hall car park.

**Norwich Bus:** Thursday, 16 January. Please contact Mandy Erlenbach on 07590 697575 to book a place.

**Mobile Post Office:** Wednesdays 12 noon to 1pm in the Village Hall car park.

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

[walberswick-pc.gov.uk](http://walberswick-pc.gov.uk)

The next edition of the Village News will be published on 1 February 2025 The copy deadline is noon on 25 January 2025 and submissions should be sent to the editor at [walberswicknews@gmail.com](mailto:walberswicknews@gmail.com).

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