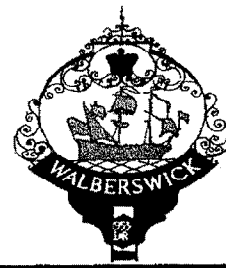


VILLAGE NEWS



JUNE 2009 ISSUE 149

DAVID SHIRREFF BIRD SONG WALK

Following last year's superb weather, no one would have dared believe that we would experience the same again. What a morning! Dazzling sunshine, the air scented with the coconut and honey of flowering gorse and so warm that even if we had not heard or seen a single bird nobody would have wanted to miss it. Whereas the number of participating walkers at around 40 was a record high, a total of 42 species for the morning was well down on previous years. However, a female Ring Ouzel seen briefly on East Hill was a nice surprise. A Bittern fly-past was a rare but much appreciated sight, as was its strange booming song emitted from deep within the reedbed. Other denizens of the reedbed, Bearded Tits and Sedge Warblers, also showed well close to the footpath - while Nightingales and Blackcaps regaled us from woodland thicket. The collection plus donations from those who couldn't make the walk broke all records with an amazing total of £260.00, so a huge thank you to one and all. This will be divided equally between Walberswick Church and the SWT/RSPB Dingle Marshes.

Tony Lancaster

THE 2009 LONDON MARATHON

Irina Mikitenko won the Women's elite race in 2 hours 22 minutes. I finished 3 hours and 7 minutes behind her! However it was a wonderful experience and I felt grateful to be a part of the world's largest Marathon. It is also the world's greatest fund raiser, to which so many of you generously donated. Money is still pouring in...but you sponsored me for at least £1,400. Combined with the Birthday Brunch you have now given over £2,500 to The Alzheimer's Research Trust. Fantastic! Thank you so much.

Julia Sowerbutts.

SMASHING TIME AT THE FETE!

We are going to have a 'smash the crockery' stall at the fete this year. Have you any old plates etc that you can donate to us? All offers gratefully received! If you would like to run a stall this year please ring me.

Mark Aldridge (724013)

NATURE NOTES FROM THE COMMON

You can find three different heathers on the common:

Bell Heather (*Erica cinerea*) - This plant prefers drier heath land and has purple 'bell-like' flowers that bloom from May to September.

Crossed-leaved Heath (*Erica tetralix L.*) - Soft grey/green foliage, with leaves set in whorls of four, at the top of which is a cluster of pinkish bell shaped flowers. It blooms from June to October, favours damp acid soil and can be found in the fen area (on the far side of the old railway track).

Common Heather or Ling (*Calluna vulgaris*) - Generally has mauve flowers (they may occasionally be white) that appear late summer. The name *Calluna vulgaris* comes from the Latin 'vulgaris' for common and the Greek 'Kallune' to clean or brush (the twigs were used for making brooms). The alternative name "Ling" is derived from the Old Norse 'Lyng' meaning fire, referring to the plant's use as a fuel.

David Webb (Joint Volunteer Warden)

FERRY GIRL 2009

Our Dani is the ferry girl
Who's done a lovely book,
A piece of village history
You shouldn't overlook -
With pictures of the families
She talks about with pride,
The weatherbeaten ferrymen
Who rowed across the Blyth
For villagers and visitors
To reach the other side.
So thanks to Dani and her team
Whose services we seek;
Without your expert oarsmanship
We'd all be up the creek!

G.G.

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 11TH MAY, 2009

At the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council, **Councillor Alvin Hunt** was elected as Chairman and **Councillor David Webb** as Vice Chairman. Councillor Madeline Dabbs was thanked for her work as Chairman over the previous two years.

Planning Applications – The Parish Council had no objections to the erection of a pitched roof over the garage and conversion of garage to studio at **Close Cottage, Manor Close** or the erection of a single-storey rear extension and two-storey side extension at **Mafeking Cottage, The Green**. However, the Parish Council did oppose certain aspects of the extension and changes to **Old Corner House, The Street**.

Cycling Proficiency – The Parish Council plans to organise two cycling proficiency courses in August. These courses are aimed at local children and second home owners with children. Please contact the Clerk for more details.

Fencing of Dunes – The Environment Agency has agreed to carry out fencing of the sand dunes. The work should be carried out in June.

Play equipment on sports field - The Parish Council agreed to two sets of modular climbing frames being erected on the sports field subject to the necessary funding being raised.

Surgery at Walberswick – Councillor Dabbs reported that Walberswick would lose its surgery if people did not use it. Residents are advised to attend the surgery in Walberswick when possible, rather than going to Southwold.

District Council Election – At present there are no candidates for this election and therefore we are currently not represented at the District Council.

Vivien Hunt (Clerk to Council)

PARISH CLERK

Vivien Hunt, our parish clerk, has decided after 12 years to retire. All the parish councillors extend a very big thank-you to her for all her very hard work. She has put in many hours, paid and unpaid, to help keep this village such a wonderful place. We wish her many happy hours of digging her allotment and garden and of course playing golf, without having to worry about typing up her minutes! Our new parish clerk, Mischi Verneti, takes up her position on the 1st June.

Walberswick Parish Council

WALBERSWICK GOLF CLUB

The results of a blustery game on the 3rd of May: Alan Porter won the match with 21pts and had his handicap slashed as well. Nigel Hunt was 2nd on countback from Andrew Horsbrough who came 3rd with Frank Woodcraft, all with 18pts. The longest drive on the 6th was won by Alan with the shortest drive ever (but with the only one to land on the fairway) and Nigel was nearest the pin.

Chas Elliott

SUMMER THEATRE FETE

1.00 pm to 4.30 pm. Sunday, 28th June, at Westons, Walberswick. Official opening at 1.30pm by Lady Freud. A real family day out with choir, band, clowns, games, children's dog show, pony rides, bouncy castle, a scrummy teashop, cakeshop, picture gallery, bookstall, garden centre, bric-a-brac, tombolas and a lucky draw to beat them all.

Proceeds support the Summer Theatre and the performing arts in our area.

Entry 50p. Car parking (including entry) £3 available from 11 am.

Barry Tolfree

GRATEFUL THANKS

While away I have had time to reflect and be grateful to all those who have sent their best wishes, enquired how I was and offered help to Susan. Ere long I will meet you and thank you personally, but in the mean time through the Village News, thank you so much.

Alan Walpole

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

GP SURGERY Village Hall Wednesdays 2.30pm (Use it or lose it!)
STRETCHING & TONING CLASS Tuesdays 10.30-11.30am Village Hall
LUNCHEON CLUB Friday 19th 12.30pm Village Hall (Note unusual date)
NORWICH BUS Thursday 18th 9.30am The Tuck Shop
LIBRARY Alternate Fridays 5th & 19th 1.55-2.55pm at the Green
BECCLES BUS Tuesdays & Fridays 9.25am at the Harbour
SUMMER THEATRE FETE Sunday 28th at Westons

DON'T FORGET TO RECORD VILLAGE EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE CALENDAR IN THE TUCK SHOP

APPRECIATION

Thank you to everyone for all the get-well cards and messages sent while I was in hospital and since I have been home.

John Brentnall

CHURCH MATTERS

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WALBERSWICK Ordained Local Minister

Rev. Brian Fisher Tel.723023

Church Wardens Christine Fisher Tel.723023

Julie Winyard Tel.722178

HELP WANTED

Many visitors to St Andrew's comment on how lovingly it is cared for; this we know is thanks to our loyal and dedicated volunteer cleaners. We are looking for new people to assist with cleaning our Church to fill the gaps left by those whose circumstances have changed or who are not quite as sprightly as they were. The task need not be arduous and, with enough people on the rota, could be only once in six weeks. If you think you could spare an hour to assist with church cleaning on a rota basis please contact **Wendy Sinclair**

Why not volunteer with a friend?

Thank you,

The Churchwardens

SERVICES

- 07 Trinity Sunday 0930 Sung Eucharist
Celebrant The Revd David Eaton
- 14 1st of Trinity 0930 Said Eucharist
also 1800 Choral Evensong
Preacher The Revd Peter Trendall
- 21 2nd of Trinity 1100 Morning Prayer
Preacher The Revd David Eaton
- 28 3rd of Trinity 0930 Sung Eucharist
Celebrant The Revd Brian Fisher
- Tuesdays at 1700 Evening Prayer (said)
Wednesdays at 1000 Holy Communion 1662 (said)
Wednesday (3rd) Healing Service with CW (said)

CHURCH SERVICE ERROR!

The Sung Eucharist on 31st May is at **Walberswick Church** and not at Southwold. Blythburgh and Reydon will also be attending and The Revd David Eaton will be in charge.

Julia Josephs

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our meeting on Thursday June 11th will be our garden meeting. We will be visiting the garden of our member Vivien Hunt at St. Francis, Stocks Lane at 2.30pm. There will be a plant stall and our usual delicious tea will be served.

Members from other local WIs will also be attending. All we need is a bit of sunshine to help proceedings along!

Irene Prince

LETTER FROM THE OLM

May 1st 2009 was an important day in the life of The Sole Bay Team Ministry, it being the day when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth signed an Order in Council establishing the 'mark two' team comprising the eight parishes of Blythburgh, Reydon, Sotherton, South Cove, Southwold, Uggeshall, Walberswick, and Wangford. At the same time a new benefice was created comprising the four other parishes previously in the team i.e. Covehithe with Benacre, Frostenden, Henstead with Hulver, and Wrentham. The new arrangement ends a period of uncertainty for the team & provides a fresh opportunity for the eight parishes to spread the good news of the Gospel in this part of God's world. In the not too distant future we hope to be able to appoint clergy to the two existing vacancies in The Sole Bay Team.

Some dates to bring to your attention:

The monthly Luncheon Club will move (for one month only) to the third Friday of June, so will take place on **Friday, 19th June**, at 12.30 pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome. Cost £6.

The following day Saturday, 20th June, we are holding a Coffee & Cakes morning between 10.00 am & 12.00 noon in the Church porch to raise funds toward maintaining the fabric of St Andrew's.

On Saturday 27th June we are looking forward to the wedding of Chris Hosea & Fiona Fisk. Please remember them in all their preparations for this important day in their lives.

Yours in Christ's service

Brian Fisher.

PARISH REGISTER

19th April 2009 Baptism
William Giles Cowley

3rd May 2009 Baptism
Florence Gracie Potter