VILLAGE NEWS

JUNE 2013 ISSUE 196

ARCHAEOLOGY IN WALBERSWICK

On 1 and 2 May, metre-square test pits were dug in 8 village gardens, by 32 children from 3 local High Schools. This, the first archaeological dig in Walberswick, was dug to professional standards: soil was removed in 20cm layers and carefully sieved out, with each child producing an excavation record. All finds were bagged and labelled with test pit number and context layer, during the dig. Experts Carenza Lewis and John Newman looked in on each test pit to follow progress and to discuss the various finds, some of which dated back to the Roman era.

I wish to thank the owners of the gardens who allowed us to dig up their lawns, and for the way that they looked after the children, who were very appreciative. The project may be repeated next year with different gardens. The report of the finds will be available in the first week of June or soon after.

Many thanks to the History Group helpers who were on hand, and to Piers Ford-Crush for his diligence with the camera.

Philip Kett, Chairman
Walberswick Local History Group

WALLY'S BRIDGE

The C.L.C. has saved the day
And East Point Bridge is here to stay.
To lose it would have been a shame;
But now it carries Wally's name,
Reminder of the work he did
To bring such joy to every kid
Who's fished for crabs along the creek,
A pleasure that so many seek.
Long may it stand where skylarks sing,
A tribute to a village king.

G.G.

DAVID SHIRREFF BIRD SONG WALK

A morning of contrasts on May 4: East Hill dazzling yellow gorse, a warming sun in a vivid blue sky shouted spring in all its glory - while the chilly leaf-denuded woodland seemed reluctant to let us relinquish thoughts of winter. The birds reflected this discrepancy, with little or no bird song detected within copse or spinney, whereas the heath-covered hill and the reed beds held most of their usual songsters.

Last year's poor summer followed by two migrations and a very late spring has left many of our summer visitors thin on the ground. Notable absentees were Nightingale, Garden Warbler and Whitethroat - we can but hope that some will still arrive. A Bittern boomed and one notably performed a flypast; the strange piglet-like squeal of a Water Rail emanated from the reed bed; and the 'Kloot Kloot' call of Avocets drifted across from the shoreline. The birds were less numerous than usual, but it was a morning to stow away in the memory banks - to recall on less favourable days.

The hat collection plus donations came to a very respectable £120.00, so a big thank you to one and all. This will be divided equally between Walberswick Church and the SWT/RSPB Dingle Marshes Project.

Tony Lancaster

OPEN GARDENS

The Open Gardens weekend – proceeds to the Village Hall Loos Appeal – will take place on 22 and 23 June. As well as the gardens themselves we offer teas and cakes, which are always very popular. If you are willing to help by donating cake(s), please put your name on the list which is kept in the Shop by the till and we will contact you nearer the time. If you could help on the day selling refreshments, washing up etc, look at the list and put your name down. We need about 30 cakes a day.

Village Hall Management Committee

All copy by 8pm on the 15th of each month to Julia Reisz at the Old Tea Room The Green Walberswick IP18 6TU. Email: julinka@hotmail.co.uk Telephone: 01502 723275

PARISH PLAN UPDATE

The Parish Plan Steering Group has now established the working parties responsible for developing the recommendations of the Stage 2 Action Plan published last October. They are as follows:-

Sea and River Defences – John Nichols (Chairman) Richard Steward and David Webb

Planning and Development Control – Frank Duffy (Chairman), Alan Gomm, Paul Bradley, Bill Ungless and Alvin Hunt

Affordable and Sheltered Housing – Jane Gomm (Chairman), Kevin Murphy, Evelyn Hastings, Paul Denny, Bill Ungless and Vivien Hunt

Traffic, Parking and Public Transport – Deferred due to Chairman's illness

Environmental issues – Ben Cardwell (Chairman), Jeremy Solnick, Bill Willison, Pru Ford-Crush, Irene and Laurence Baird

Energy Working Party including Bulk Buying – Aubrey Pearson (Chairman) Peter Byrne and John Nichols

Health - Chrissie Reeves (Chairman), Maddie Dabbs, Sarah Lawrence, Bill Ungless, Sue Pearson, and Peter Byrne

Youth – The parent and toddler group has been developed by a very effective management committee which also successfully organised sport activity days for youngsters last summer.

Internet – Faster Broadband – Peter Byrne

Village Hall – This is run by the very efficient and effective Village Hall Management Committee.

Parish Plan Communications: Kay Ungless, Vivien Hunt, John Nichols & Ben Cardwell

Parish Plan Steering Group This will continue to provide overall coordination and will be responsible for liaison with the appointed Parish Council and monitoring progress. The Group remains: - John Nichols (Chairman), Alvin Hunt (Vice Chairman), Vivien Hunt (Secretary), Ben Cardwell (Treasurer), Chrissie Reeves, Alan Gomm and Peter Byrne.

Vivien Hunt - Secretary

DOROTHY MEADE (1923-2012)

Dorothy Meade (nee Sampson) was part of the third generation of a family which had close Walberswick connections. Her grandmother was the painter Marion Seward, whose summer residence was Old Farm. Her mother Phyllis and aunts Dorothy, Margery and Carola all spent their childhood (and later) holidays here, as did her brothers Anthony and John Sampson.

In the 1950s she worked for the Council of Industrial Design as part of the Festival of Britain team, and later, she helped her brother Anthony with research for a book about their grandfather John Sampson.

In 1953 Dorothy married Peter Meade. Together they spent as much time as they could at their cottage near the Bell. After Peter died, Dorothy continued the visits until shortly before her own death in December, despite having been diagnosed with MS in the 1990s. She is survived by Chris and Clare, and four grand-children.

Richard Scott

FESPA SUMMER THEATRE FETE

At The Stables, Walberswick, on **Sunday 7 July**: 1.00-5.00pm. Parking £3 from12 noon. Entrance £1- free under 10. There will be a hugely exciting programme for all ages from the opening with Jill Freud to ending with The Grand Draw. Full details will be given in next month's Village News. Meanwhile, any unwanted toys, bric-a-brac, plants etc. will be very welcome. Leave in my garage or ring for collection.

Val Anderson (724609)

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

POST OFFICE Tuesdays 1-3pm, Thursdays 10am-12 noon Village Hall
NORWICH BUS Thursday 13th 9.15am (Ring 724763 to book)
LUNCHEON CLUB Friday 7th 12.30pm Village Hall
MOBILE LIBRARY Friday 7th 2.20-2.50pm Village Hall
WALBERSWICK OPEN GARDENS Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE: www.walberswick.suffolk.gov.uk

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Thursday 6 June is our next meeting, at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Mrs. Sue Morgan, a bat surveyor, will be telling us about ***Bats and Their Habits*** . We are pleased to report that we had a very successful Bridge Drive and hope to make this a regular event for fund raising in the future.

Sue Pearson

CHURCH MATTERS

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WALBERSWICK

Team Rector

Revd Simon Pitcher **(725424)**

revsimon@talktalk.net

Ordained Local Minister

Revd Brian Fisher **(723023)**

Churchwarden: Chrissie Reeves **(723351)**

JUNE SERVICES

2 1st Sunday of Trinity 1100 Parish Eucharist
Celebrant Revd Brian Fisher

9 2nd Sunday of Trinity 0930 Parish Eucharist
Celebrant Revd Brian Fisher
Also 6pm Choral Evensong BCP
Preacher Revd Lizzie Gregory

16 3rd Sunday of Trinity 1100 Parish Eucharist
Celebrant Revd Richard Henderson

23 4th Sunday of Trinity 0930 Parish Eucharist
Celebrant Revd Simon Pitcher

Tuesdays at 1700 Evening Prayer (said)
Wednesdays at 1000 Holy Communion 1662 (said)
Wednesday (1st) Healing Service CW (said)

LAUNCH OF CHURCH GUIDE

Thursday 13 June at 6pm sees the launch of a new Church Guide at St Andrew's, to which all are invited. Refreshments will be served.This marks a very happy occasion: a new guide published after many years of dispute and controversy. **Roy Tricker**, who has written several hundred guides of Suffolk Churches, has been responsible for researching and writing the text; and **Bill Jackson** has been solely in charge of the photographs, design and art work. Together with members of the PCC, I am most grateful for their kindness and generosity. I must also thank Simon Pitcher for his whole-hearted encouragement over the past three months.

Julia Josephs

COMMEMORATIVE FLOWERS

19th June - Jayne & Brian Tibbles
in memory of their grandson **Olley Tibbles**

LETTER FROM THE OLM (Retired)

At the recent thanksgiving and funeral services that I took at St Andrew's we thought a little bit about the Christian life as a pilgrimage or a journey. It is a journey that, when we start, we do not know where our pilgrimage is likely to take us. Mine began in the maternity ward of Kingston-upon-Thames Hospital & has brought me, so far, to Walberswick via Worcester Park, Monchen Gladbach, New Malden and Oulton Broad!

On 22 June, together with others from churches in our deanery, I will be going on a somewhat shorter pilgrimage (considerably shorter in fact, just one day) to St Albans Abbey. Who was Alban? According to the historian, Bede, he served in the Roman army based in the Roman city of Verulamium (now St Albans in Hertfordshire). At a time of persecution Alban, who was a pagan, gave shelter to a fugitive Christian priest; he was so struck by the priest's way of life that Alban was converted to the Christian faith. When other soldiers came searching for the priest, Alban disguised himself in the priest's clothes: he was arrested & condemned to death. Bede records that Alban was martyred on the 22 of June (probably in the year 250) and so became the first British martyr. This year, as I did a few years ago, I shall be walking in Alban's footsteps. Thank God that, in our country, we are free to live out our Christian faith; we should prayerfully remember faithful Christians in other lands who face persecution even today.

Our team curate, Lizzie Gregory, will be continuing her Christian journey on 29 June: on that day, having completed her year as a deacon, she will be ordained at St Edmundsbury Cathedral as a priest.

The Luncheon Club this month will be on **Friday, 7 June, at 12.30pm** in the Village Hall. (Earlier in the month than usual).You would be warmly welcomed if you have not previously joined us for this event.

Yours in Christ's service

Brian Fisher.

PARISH REGISTER

25 April 2013: Funeral Service at
St Peter & St John Church, Kirkley
(followed by cremation)
William Gerald Annesley

26 April 2013: Thanksgiving Service
for the life of
William Geoffrey Kennedy Smiley aged 35

29 April 2013: Funeral Service
(followed by burial)
The Rt Hon Ian,
2nd Baron Balfour of Inchrye aged88