ISSUE 85 FEBRUARY 2004

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villagenews@walberswick.net

#### LET'S GET BROADBAND!

I am co-host of the campaign to get the Southwold telephone exchange upgraded to broadband status. Advantages are very substantial to anyone who does, or may in the future, access the Internet on a regular basis. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2003 BT set a trigger level of 500 registrants before the exchange will be enabled for broadband. The tremendous benefits of broadband cannot be over-exaggerated and it neither costs money to register nor does it involve any obligation whatsoever to switch to broadband. Already over 30% of the trigger level has been achieved but it is urgent that ALL who access the internet via the Southwold exchange register as soon as possible. Registration may be achieved in many ways but for simplicity we have a registration site at:

# www.getonandgetit.co.uk/Southwold/

and The Blythweb site has a similar facility for all local area campaign groups. Unless we all register none of us will get broadband. If anyone needs assistance to register then please contact me at any time.

LET'S GET ON AND GET IT WALBERSWICK! Robin Buncombe.

#### A JOLLY EVENING ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A very large number of us in this village turns out to vote in national elections. Far fewer of us bother to take an interest in local elections - for the District Council or for the County Council. Few of us know the difference between them, nor have much of a clue about what they do or, if we are honest, care much about them.

Yet these bodies, and the people in them, have a much more direct influence on our lives than our national government. The District Council prepares the plan which determines the size and shape of our Village; the County Council runs all the schools - except those which are private. In short, their powers are enormous, the money they spend (witness our Council Tax bills) is huge, and the people whom we elect to sit on these councils are very Important Indeed. On Friday 19th March at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall three of these people, Jeremy Pembroke and Peter Aldous, from the County Council, and our own Rae Leighton who is on the County and the District Councils, will give a talk, lead a discussion and answer questions on what these councils do and how they set about doing it. Although this meeting has been arranged by the Conservative Branch in the village it is open to everyone and will be non-political. It is a genuine attempt to explain and to engender interest. There is no charge and we will end at about 9.00 pm. with a glass of wine and snacks. Peter Gordon-Potts.

#### **BLANKETS FOR THE BLUE CROSS**

I would like to thank everyone who kindly left blankets, towels, etc. at Dutch House for my friends at the Blue Cross Animal Centre. They will now have a warmer winter.

Mischa King.

# KIM & JESS MOBILE HAIRDRESSERS

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Please Note: Tickets may be limited

(Cheques payable to Walberswick Pantomime Fund)

#### **NSPCC BOOKSWAP**

Has anyone any books they no longer want? We would welcome them, delivered to The Anchor Inn. If they need collecting please telephone me.

Tina Harris. Tel. 01502 722112

# NOTES FROM THE WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL **MEETING**

D Webb had attended a meeting to discuss the Suffolk Estuary Strategy. He reported that no decisions had been made as yet; however topographical and hydrographical material had been collected and a computer model would be formulated. Mr Webb stated that he had joined a group to look at the model which would predict water levels in the estuary. The Chairman reported that £316.00 had been raised for the Children's Society as a result of the carol service on the Green and carol singing around the village on Christmas Eve. Thanks were extended to Mr Peter Avis for taking the service round the tree.

Planning – The Councillors were concerned that a planning application for the erection of a two-storey extension to 3. Lorne Cottages, would have a large visual impact on the corner of the Village Green which has been the subject of many paintings over the years and was in a Conservation Area. They agreed to ask the Development Control Committee to visit the site before making a decision on the application. Suffolk Coastal has refused the relocation of a vehicular access towards the east boundary at De Cressey's Restaurant because it would place the access very close to a group of beech trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Sea Defences - The recent breach of the sea wall was discussed and a letter will be sent to the Environment Agency asking them to press on with the promised planting of marram into position to consolidate the objective. Soon afterwards the grass and the fencing of further areas at risk on the beach. They would also be asked to look at the considerable erosion at the point where the Creek meets the River Blyth, and the sluice bridge which did not appear to be functioning correctly. Mrs Dabbs was concerned that there was not a register of people who might need help in an emergency. This would be placed on the next agenda. The state of the footpaths and River Wall path would be reported to the Highways Department. Beach huts had been vandalised over the Christmas period. Complaints had also been received about unauthorised firework displays.

Please note that next month's meeting will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> February due to the pantomime taking over the annexe.

Viv Hunt. Clerk to the Parish Council.

#### **THANKS**

I would like to say thank you for all the support through cards, letters, prayers and telephone calls that I received during my recent illness. Walberswick is a wonderful place to live. Thank vou all so much.

Viv Hunt.

#### A LOCAL HERO

Anyone who has read Suffolk Memories will be aware of the vital part so many local people played in the Second World War. When I mentioned the book to a good friend of mine he told me the story of his father Peter Wright who was the tenant farmer at Church Farm, Blythburgh, until 1990 when he died. The citation below tells the story of how Peter won the DCM which shortly afterwards was upgraded to the Victoria Cross by order of the King, an unprecedented occurrence, reward for uncommon valour.

#### CITATION.

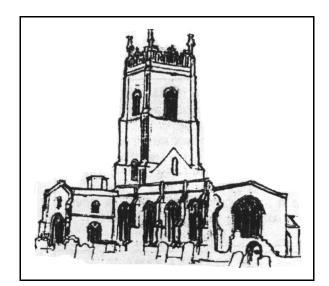
'(Company sergeant Major) Peter Harold Wright Coldstream Guards'

In Italy on the 25th September 1943, the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards attacked the Pagliarolli feature, a steep wooded hill near Salerno. Before it reached the crest, the right hand company was held up by heavy spandau and mortar fire and all the officers had become casualties. CSM Wright, seeing that his company was held up, went forward to see what could be done. Finding that there were no officers left he immediately took charge and crawled forward by himself to see what the opposition was like. He returned with the information that three spandau posts were holding them up. He collected a section and put it into a position where it could give covering fire. Single-handed he then attacked each post in turn with hand grenades and bayonet silencing each. He then lead the Company on to the crest but realised that the enemy fire made this position untenable. CSM Wright therefore led them a short way down the hill and up on to the objective from a different direction. Entirely regardless of enemy fire, which was very heavy, CSM Wright then reorganised what was left of the company and placed them enemy launched a counter attack which was fully beaten off. Later, with complete disregard of heavy enemy shell fire on the area of company headquarters and the reverse slopes of the hill and of gun fire from the slopes on the left of the position, he brought up extra ammunition and distributed it to the company. It is due to this Warrant Officer's superb disregard of the enemy's fire, his magnificent leadership, and his outstanding heroism throughout the action that his battalion succeeded in capturing and maintaining its hold on this very important objective.'

More information, press cuttings and reports about this heroic Suffolk farmer can be found at:

www.peterwrightvc.com Justin Kibble. Editor.





# CHURCH MATTERS CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

1st		Candlemas	0930	Sung Eucharist
8th	Feb	3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent	0930	Family Eucharist
			1800	Choral Evensong
15th	Feb	2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent	1100	Morning Prayer
22nd	Feb	Sun' before Lent	0930	Sung Eucharist
25th	Feb	Ash Wednesday	1000	Eucharist/Ashing
29th	Feb	1 <sup>st</sup> of Lent	0930	Eucharist at
				Blythburgh

Holy Communion 1662 (said) every Wednesday at 10.00 a.m. Evening Prayer is said every Tuesday at 5.00 pm. Sunday School in the Village Hall Annexe 10.00 am. – 12.15 pm.

#### **FLOWER ARRANGERS**

Cynthia Jackson, Elizabeth Leighton. British Legion, Jean Turnbull. No flowers in Lent.

# **CHURCH CLEANERS**

6<sup>th</sup> Pat Wythe, Betty Jones, Janet Simpson. 13<sup>th</sup> Pru Ford-Crush, Elizabeth Leighton, Margreet Walpole. 20<sup>th</sup> Ruth Bassett, Chris & Wendy Sinclair. 27<sup>th</sup> Craster & Kathleen Patterson, Cynthia Jackson.

# St ANDREW'S GUILD MEETING

There will be a meeting of St Andrew's Guild on 2<sup>nd</sup> February in Saltlick the home of Mr and Mrs Gordon-Potts. Arrangements will be made for Lent lunches, Mothering Sunday, Easter decorations and other matters. All residents are welcome to attend.

Wendy Sinclair.

#### WI THE LAND of the PHAROAHS

We shall look forward to hearing Mr Parfitt's talk on the Land of the Pharaohs at the February meeting. Daniel Allum, our speaker in January, told us how he achieved impossible dreams after leaving the Romanies in his late teens. Now working in the theatre he hopes to involve future Romanies in this work.

Julia Josephs.

#### LETTER FROM THE OLM

It was back in April last year that I announced that the first Walberswick Luncheon Club would take place on the second Friday in May. Since then it has gone from strength to strength. I would like to thank all those who have helped in various ways to make this venture such a success. Our next Luncheon Club will be on 13th February, at the usual time (12.30 pm.) in the Village Hall.

On Ash Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, at 10.00 am., we will combine our regular midweek Communion service with the ancient practice of marking our foreheads in the form of a cross with ashes (obtained by burning the palm crosses that were given to people at the previous year's Palm Sunday services). If this sounds more than a little odd to non-churchgoers, it is a symbolic act of penitence for the sins we have committed, and leads us right into Lent. It could be worse; in the early church it was the practice for church members to begin their period of public penitence sprinkled with ashes and wearing sackcloth!

After last year's successful series of Sunday evening Lent lectures in Southwold, there is to be a further series this year; the theme will be *'Christian ethics'* with Prof. Hugh Williamson as the first speaker on 29<sup>th</sup> February, at

6.00 pm. in the Southwold URC Church. All are welcome. St Andrew's Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to take place at the church, on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February, at 7.30 p.m. Please join us.

Yours in Christ's service,

Brian Fisher.

# ST ANDREW'S CHURCH WALBERSWICK

**TEAM RECTOR** 

Revd Jane Wilson Tel: 722397

**TEAM VICAR** 

Revd Graham Owen Tel: 578827

**CHURCHWARDENS** 

Christine Fisher Tel: 723023 Julie Winyard Tel: 722178

**ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER** 

Revd Brian Fisher Tel: 723023

### Page 4

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# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH?

**GP SURGERY** Wednesdays 14.30. Village Hall Annexe. **LIBRARY BUS** Alternate Fridays.

Church 14.30/Village Hall 15.10 6th and 20th.

**4-7th Feb.** Snow White - Walberswick's Pantomime.

**9th Feb.** Parish Council Meeting Village Hall Annexe.

**13th Feb.** Luncheon Club 12.30 pm.

20th Feb. Annual Parochial Church Meeting. St Andrew's 7.30 pm.

29th Feb. Lent Lecture. Southwold URC Church 6.00 pm.

**19th Mar.** A Jolly Evening on Local Government. Village Hall 7.30 pm.