



In Touch with...

Walton

Life and news in Walton Village

Issue 44 August 2015

This newsletter and some previous editions can also be viewed at the community Website: www.pariah-council.com/walton

WALTON VILLAGE FAMILY FUN DAY

**PARKING ONLY AVAILABLE VIA
ASNEY ROAD GATE** - HALL CAR PARK TO
BE KEPT CLEAR FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES

You are invited to meet up with friends,

neighbours and residents on our annual village fun day.

There will be lots of things to entertain you and yours during the afternoon and on through the early evening with **MIDROD ENDS.**

Please remember that parental supervision of children is required at all times.

Limited car parking is available via the Asney road entrance to the playing field.

Enquiries and / or requests for entry forms for the Harvest, Flower and Craft show or the Car Boot sale should be made to Jo Haydon on

01458 442041

All entries and monies are to be returned no later than Monday 7th September to 61 Main Street Walton. Children's entries can be handed in at Walton Primary or Walton under fives pre school.

The Walton Trust are unable to hold this event without all your help which is always appreciated. We have been very lucky with the weather for the last ten years and are hoping to push our luck again this year. Mostly, we are reliant on you to support our efforts and hope you will enjoy the event again this year.

SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2015 from 1pm

With evening entertainment from **MIDROD ENDS**

This Year the afternoon will include the usual car boot sale, ferret racing, a bouncy castle, crockery smash, skittles and other side stalls. There will also be an emergency services display, agricultural displays, Wessex F.C. football activities and the opportunity to try your hand at a game of Boules. The popular

"Junior Walton's Got Talent" [entries for this can be made up to 2pm on the day] makes a



return due to local demand & The Walton Harvest, Flower & Craft show entries [judged on Friday 11th] will be on display in the hall and the prizes and awards for these will be made during the afternoon. **Refreshments** will be available through the day including Wine, Beer, Cider and a barbeque.

The event is to raise funds for Walton Village Hall Charity No. 1055917 .

Please note that photographs and films of the event will be taken for the Walton Village Archives. [& This newsletter!]

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL -
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ARTICLES -

Articles in this newsletter are gathered from the Parish Council, village & public sources and Contributors. The Information and views are accepted as factual and honest. Information or views expressed in articles are not necessarily that of the editor or parish council.

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE

Your Village Hall

Photovoltaic panels have been fitted to the roof of the village hall. This installation, which will reduce the running costs of the hall, was a contribution for community benefit from the company who put in the solar park at Whitley.



Movements for Well being

Learn low impact moves drawn from Tai Chi & Qigong with trainer and nurse Gwen Walker -

FREE TASTER SESSION

Wednesday 2nd September 2.30pm to 3.30pm at the village hall .



Have you experienced sitting in your chair, or driving, or standing, doing anything in fact.....that aching back, a nagging pain in your neck and lower back, tense shoulders, that energy drain and sense of panic, when you get a 'difficult' call or need to respond positively to yet another demand? Yes? Then Tai Chi Movements could be for you, it can be done by anyone - standing or seated.

Wild Flowers

I have taken loads of photo's of our wildflower trial area with Bee's visiting but most showed no Bee's because they had 'buzzed off' or the wind was making them look all blurred. Grrrrrr! BUT at last, **EUREKA**, a photo with a lovely Bee actually on the flowers. Bye for now... Bob Musgrave



Parish Council Update

By Alan Marsh your Chairman

COMMUNITY BENEFITS FROM SOLAR PARKS

In the last edition of the newsletter I indicated that Council was expecting to receive the Community Benefit from the Redlands Farm Solar Park in a matter of days, however at the time of writing this nothing has been received because the Company which is planning to take over the Park wanted a number of modifications completed before it would complete the purchase.

Council has been considering its approach to handling the expected Community Benefit at recent meetings and any suggestions from residents would be welcomed - send them to the Parish Clerk or speak to any of your local Councillors.

Those of you who have been near the Village Hall will have noticed that Solar Panels have been fitted to the roof [see picture above] and this system is expected to generate up to 4 kilowatts per hour which will reduce the running costs of the hall. The system was provided by the company which installed the Solar Park off Whitley Lane as a Community Benefit.

INSTALLATION OF a V.A.D.

Following Councillors continuing concerns about the speed some vehicles are travelling at through the Village, Council

has agreed to fund the purchase of a Vehicle Activated Device which will flash a warning when it detects a vehicle travelling above 30mph.

The County Highways department will provide and install the required post for the device, which is planned to be erected on the southern side of the A39 just before the first Bus Stop after the West End Junction.

The VAD has an inbuilt solar panel to provide the power needed and is guaranteed for 5 years.

GREEN AREAS

The possibility of more frequent cutting of the green areas in the Village is being investigated by the Council following a number of Residents comments about how untidy some areas were now looking since the reduction in both the number and the quality of finish of the cuts provided by County and District Councils.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This years Meeting was held on the evening of May 8th and was again a success although the number of Residents attending was lower than last year. This was maybe because the evening was not as well advertised and Council will consider improving this for next years meeting.

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW BENCHES?

These were purchased and installed with the aid of a Local Heritage Grant from Mendip district council - they make a colourful addition to the play area and a comfortable addition to the war memorial outside the Parish Church.



POLICE

For non emergency calls
dial **101**
Emergencies dial 999

Fun Day Car Boot & Harvest

Flower and Craft Show

Info from Jo Haydon
01458 442041

Mendip Local Plan Part 2

Consultation at Walton Village
Hall - FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER
2015 2pm - 8pm

There are many other groups that meet at the village hall - Have you considered attending?

Short Mat Bowls -
Monday 7.30-9.30pm

Badminton -
Tuesday 7.30 --9.30pm

WI Table Tennis -
Wednesday 11am-11pm

Somerset Kick-boxing -
Wednesday 5.30-6.30pm

Line Dancing -
Thursday (not 2nd Thurs of the month) 7-9pm

All of these groups are very welcoming to new members and you are invited to turn up and take a look. There are also frequent social get togethers on some mornings, for example soup mornings, that are well advertised locally. Dancing and musical groups also book the hall. Keep your eyes on the notice boards around the village and in the hall foyer.

In addition, meetings also take place in the lounge and the hall has become a popular place to hold wedding receptions and parties. If you wish to book the hall please contact our booking secretary, Lorraine Grainger, whose number is displayed in the notice board outside the hall.

Update...

As many of you are aware changes have taken place at the village hall. There has been a thorough re-decoration of the rooms and the chairs and carpets have been cleaned. Solar panels have also been installed to help with fuel costs. Outside there is a newly laid boules court which can be played on anytime as long as you bring your own boules set. The Walton Trust is planning more improvements to update the building which is now sixteen years old. Your use of the hall is appreciated as is the care taken when leaving it clean and tidy.

The Walton Textiles Group

Meets in the Walton Village Hall the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in the afternoon between 1.30pm and 4.30pm. [next meeting is September 8th]

This is a very busy and productive group with a great many skills between them that they share and practise at the village hall twice a month. They started out as mainly a quilting group however it has



developed into a much wider range of fabric and textile produce, hence the current name of **Walton Textiles**.

However I have been fortunate to see a range of their quilting designs, from crazy quilting to more formally designed squares.

Classes have been given on a range of textile based topics, these have included the unusual concept of Fabric Postcards - with designs from patchwork collage to crazy quilt freestyle - to the more formal topic of How to machine quilt your completed patchwork designs.

All the meetings encourage your creativity and

have a real "hands On" approach. Individual members enter projects into competitions and **Catherine Groves recently won a gold award at the National festival of Quilts.**

The programme for the next few months includes some familiar names such as quilt blocks, pencil cases & pouches and applique - however there are also the less familiar sounding foundation piecing,

cathedral windows, a sardine run workshop, and folded patchwork. There are also show and tell sessions that involve sharing finished pieces and describing their construction.

The group was originally started by Barbara Fry and Lesley Gagg and remains a loosely organised, friendly and welcoming place for everyone to come and sew, share and learn. The expertise of members is very varied and all levels of skill are welcome. The pictures on the left, illustrate some of the groups' work that was on display at the May 8th Meeting of Walton Parish.



The Meet and Greet

The title says it all.

On the **first Wednesday of each month** in the lounge of the Village Hall people from Walton call in for a chat and a free cup of tea, coffee or a glass of orange juice if you prefer.

The Meet & Greet cannot be described as a club, which would paint a picture of rules, subscriptions or other involvement. The Meet & Greet is where informality is the name of the game set in a relaxed atmosphere.

There is no commitment, just call in and spend the time you can spare with us between **2:15 and 3:45 pm**. The next date for your diary will be Wednesday the 2nd of September.

So who is it for?

The simple answer is anyone. If you are new to Walton this would be a good opportunity to get to know more about the village and the people who live here. For others who know each other, or have



Quiz at Meet & Greet

been on nodding acquaintance, it gives you time to sit down and catch up with things during your visit. Why not pop along and see for yourself?

Walton in Bloom 2015 - The Results

Best overall garden this year goes to 14 Badgers Green, because of the overall effect, tidiness and impact. A well thought out and welcoming area. [The picture does not do it justice!] Runner up is 26 Hempitts.



Best Container garden is 32 Hempitts for the vibrant and colourful display - beautifully colour coordinated. Second goes to 40 Main Street with a special mention to 146 Main Street.



Walton in Bloom 2015 - The Results

Best Hanging Basket this year returns to Laune Cottage at the far end of Main Street for a display that provides beautiful colour at the entrance to the village. Runner up this year to 32 Main Street.



Most unusual Garden is awarded again to 1 Blackthorn Way for the neatness and design of the topiary - stunning! Runner up goes to 1 Badgers Green for their topiary and rock garden display.



Walton in Bloom 2015 - The Results

There is a new award for the village allotments, a “Cornucopia” award - The plaques for this new category were donated by the Parish Clerk. The winning allotment was plot number 4 - with 15 as a close 2nd. A special award, donated by the judge, Allan Cavill, went this year to plot 14.



The special award will be given to something that little bit different each year - plot 14 is a no dig plot.



As ever the effort of everyone who takes the time to create such beautiful displays is very much appreciated and the ongoing commitment to cope with the unpredictable weather be it high winds, super dry spell and torrential rains is amazing. Special mentions go to 17 Fox Rd & 27 Hempitts. If your garden did not win an award this year it was a very difficult year to judge so do not worry, we looked at all gardens in the village that can be seen from the road and know that there is a huge range of large and small, square and unusual shaped gardens that all bring their own challenge.

The village is a better place, a greener and prettier place because of *all* your gardens.

Walton W.I.

The group has had a busy two months.

Our **Quiz** Teams came first and fourth in the Group Quiz and our team in the County Team came sixth. The **Skittles team** won a group match against Puriton and narrowly lost against Middlezoy despite gaining fifteen points in the last hand.

The **Ladies who Lunch** revisited the Two Brewers and have also tried out the newly opened Three Wells Public House.

The July meeting was an opportunity to play indoor games including kurling and to try out the newly laid boules court outside the village hall.

The following day saw a special tea party to celebrate the **Centenary of the Women's Institute** with forty six of our members and thirty representatives from Puriton, Woolavington, Ashcott, Compton Dundon, Shap-

wick, Pilton and County. The entertainment was supplied by a pianist and W.I. Members.

As well as our usual **Croquet** sessions, five of us accepted an invitation by Kingston Saint Mary to play them at their ground. In addition, we have held two **Kurling** sessions, one away for the Trefoil Guides at their camp in Shaftsbury and the other at home for Kingston Saint Mary. The normal weekly **Table Tennis** and **Craft** groups have continued as usual.

Outings have included The Faulkland lavender Farm, Morrisons Warehouse, a theatre trip by bus to see Jesus Christ Super Star at Bristol Hippodrome and a treasure hunt in Somerton. The **Annual Outing** was a day out in Poole followed by a carvery meal.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th September in Walton Village Hall when

Dr. Sue Jennings will be enlightening us about the “**First Lady Physician**” and the competition will be a “Herb Nosegay”. New members and visitors are welcome to join us..

The Women's Institute (WI)

was formed in 1915 to revitalise rural communities and encourage women to become more involved in producing food during the First World War. Since then the organisation's aims have broadened and the WI is now the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK. The WI will celebrate its centenary in 2015 and currently has 212,000 members in around 6,600 WIs.

The WI plays a unique role in providing women with educational opportunities and the chance to build new skills, to take part in a wide variety of activities and to campaign on issues that matter to them and their communities.

Do you remember the pram race, or other events from Walton's past?

If you have memories and photographs about the village and its history, and would like to share these with others via this

magazine, why not contact the editor?

[Contact details are on the bottom of this page]

We would carefully copy photographs and return them to you and be able to share your memories and stories about the events with other residents. It is important to record these past events be they social, sporting or interesting in some other way. They are the history of the village, of **your** village.

So take a good look through your photographs and memorabilia and see what memories you can discover, and if you think that something would be fun or interesting to share, or should be recorded and remembered, contact the editor:

Mrs. Helen Moore, [01458 833483]
21 Bere Lane Glastonbury

WALTON WAS...

A place with a pram race

Back in the 1960's Walton was host to a well attended fancy dress pram race.

There used to be "dozens and dozens of prams" said Mrs. Eileen Smith when recently reminiscing about the race that was a big event in the village calendar regularly attended by around a hundred villagers and widely covered in the local press.

The pram race was a special day for the village with the road closed for a couple of hours on a Saturday and the race started and lead off by a local celebrity, including BBC television personality Miss Sarah Ward, who Mrs. Eileen Smith remembers as "a beautiful and elegant woman" driven in a vintage Rolls Royce Silver Ghost Car by its Glastonbury owner.

Mrs. Smith recalled the event as starting at the Walton Church and going to and from the Street Inn along Main Street - now the A39 - with one in the pram on the way out and the other on the way back.

The prams and racers were all dressed up in different themes and all these costumes were handmade. There were prizes awarded for the best fancy dress as well as for the fastest runners.

Mrs. Smith created home made costumes for all her children ranging from Thunder Birds, Matadors and Flint

The Local Toc H Group Leader Mr. Lockyear organised the Walton fancy dress pram race to and from Street for around six years in the nineteen sixties.

Stones through to Mermaids - the picture here is of her daughter Gillian in a 'buttons and bows' outfit.

The pram race had different categories for ages with the most competitive setting off first, it was hotly contended event with entrants from Walton, Street, Ashcott and Glastonbury. [and also occasionally further afield] Competitors ranged from young children, members of local youth groups and an occasional couple who were definitely a great deal more mature - although Mrs. Smith states that she never entered herself!

The weather was apparently generally fine - a good thing according to Mrs. Smith who fondly remembers a pram for her young matadors decorated as a bull, and created using an old fur coat! However at least one race was reported in the local paper as having drenched but still smiling and enthusiastic runners doing the round trip to Street.

As ever in village communities, bad weather does not stop play.



Grant Applications Invited...

Every year the parish council makes a number of grant awards to groups and organisations that benefit the village of Walton

Parish Precept Grant

If your group or organisation is in Walton, or provides a service to the residents of Walton then you could be eligible

You can apply for a grant whether or not you have previously received or applied for a grant and all applications will be considered on an individual basis.

There is a standard application form to fill in that can be downloaded from the village website at:

www.pariah-council.com/walton
[on the council information page]
or by contacting the parish Clerk :
Telephone: 01458 833483
e-mail walton.clerk@yahoo.com

You will need to return the completed form by midday on Monday 8th September or bring it in person to the September parish council meeting on Friday September 18th at 7pm in the village hall lounge.

Previous groups that have received grants include:

Walton under five's pre school, the netball club, Dorset & Somerset air ambulance, Polden hills pony club, the allotment group and the WI.

If you want to know who has applied this year and / or make a comment on a current application all of them will be on the agenda for discussion at the October 16th Parish Council meeting [7pm in the village hall lounge]

The Harry Skinner Fund

This fund was set up with money from a very generous legacy from a local resident. If you run, or are planning to run, an event for the elderly residents of the village then you can apply at any time of the year for a small grant [£50 to £500] from the Harry Skinner fund. Applications should be made in writing to the parish Clerk and contain the following information as a minimum:
Name & contact details of applicant
Details of what the money is required for
Details of who would benefit & how
Total cost of project or event
Amount being requested
Details of any other funding applied for.

The Local Post...

Answering a knock on my door one evening some weeks back I found a gentleman who introduced himself as Allen Cotton. Now we all know the feeling in the first moments of meeting someone that you've heard their name before, and that described me at the time. So with an inquiring tone I said his name sounded familiar to me, and sure enough it was. Allen was a former county councillor for twelve years and had Walton as part of his area for eight of those years until boundary changes took place.

The reason for his visit was the research he is doing into local post offices and the people who run or ran them for a book he is writing. He has taken a trip around the district locating both current and former locations of post offices. For instance Walton's sub post office, when we had one, was located in South Street which most of you remember and before that on Main Street next to the bus stop opposite the church.

The book will portray Glastonbury as the main post office in our district and the many sub post offices that feed into it.

Allen has also been seeking out all the post boxes in the area that are in use and will highlight some of

interest. Our post box near the church has a short history since its move from South Street and will be mentioned in the book because the original mounting pole was too high when first installed particularly for wheel chair users. It was subsequently lowered after the parish council contacted the Post Office. [See pictures below]

In our conversation, Allen said during the period of the Glastonbury Penny Post from 1826 - 1840 each of five local post offices put a unique reference number on a letter which gave the location of the office in relationship to Glastonbury. Your letter from Walton would be stamped "No.4" on the front and it would then be franked with the town name and date when it arrived at Glastonbury. Before May 1840 there were no stamps

to pre-pay postage on your letters. Another interesting point was post offices were at one time called receiving offices where you would take your letters to be posted. Any post that was on its way to you had to be picked up from Glastonbury.

The book, with its estimated 250 pages at the time of writing, promises to be very interesting. Allen hopes to have the book, which is nearing completion, published towards the end of the year. Details of when it goes on sale will be in a later newsletter for those who are interested in our local history.

Bye for now, John

Picture A = original height of box

Picture B = Resident Wendy Devenish using lowered post box.



Dates for your Diary

Meet & Greet -

Village Hall Lounge on the **first Wednesday of every month** 2.15pm to 3.45pm - pop in for tea & chat for an hour or a couple of minutes - all welcome

Walton W.I. -

Thursday 10th September at 7.30pm in the village hall - talk on the "First Lady Physician" by Dr. Sue Jennings. New members and visitors welcome.

Coffee & Chat -

Coffee and Chat morning with Police Beat surgery. Walton Church **Thursdays from 10.30am to 11.30am.** Come & say hello.

Parish Council Members

Chairman:

Alan Marsh,
Manor Farm Veal Lane
Walton

Vice Chairman:

Bob Musgrave,
18 Mildred Road Walton

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