

In Touch With...

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS
NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE

Walton

Life and news in Walton Village

November 2023 Issue 78

This newsletter and some previous editions can also be viewed at the community website: www.waltonpc.org

From the Parish Council vice chairman...



Welcome to our latest edition of the Walton Newsletter, this year our focus

has been on community engagement, we have been looking into ways of improving the way we can share residents views on life around our village. We had a very successful afternoon at the Walton Funday asking for residents feedback on their likes and dislikes and especially areas where we can try and improve our village. May I also take this opportunity to thank the Walton Trust committee members and supporters who once again came together to organise a very successful Village Fun Day, this event is not only a great event for the community to get together it is also a very important fundraiser for the running of the Village Hall.

Looking forward, this year we have been very fortunate to enrol 4 new councillors onto the Parish Council and these "younger" councillors will bring a fresh attitude to what they feel are important aspects to be incorporated into future decisions.

Bob Collins

Our Red Phone box...

Autumn is here, and with it comes the exciting news of the upcoming transformation of our redundant phone box next to the church on Main Street, into a free-to-all swap shop library!

After careful consideration and consultation with other villages that have successfully re purposed their own telephone boxes, we have decided to create a community space where residents can share their love of reading and learning.

A kind and very talented local carpenter has generously offered to design and build shelving for the library, and we will soon be painting and renovating the phone box to give it a new lease on life.

We are currently seeking donations of books and other reading materials, any and all assistance would be greatly appreciated! To donate books, please call or text Lewis on 07599 385 244, to organise the drop-off.

**Watch this
space,
Walton!**



Meet & Greet, Knit & Natter!

In the lounge at the
village hall on the

1st and 3rd
Wednesday
of every month,
2pm to 4pm

A chance to meet up
and have a chat

There can be everything
from knitting and card
making at the Knit & Natter,
to board games and chatter
at the Meet & Greet.

**Everyone is
welcome!**



SQUAREONE

PILATES

Pilates Classes
@ Walton Village Hall

Tuesday 6:00 pm & Wednesday 3:30 pm

Mixed ability classes suitable for both Men & Women.

- Reduced Back Pain
- Improved Posture
- Improved Balance
- Improved Mobility
- Improved Flexibility
- Core Strength

Pilates has many benefits and is an exercise suitable for

everyone. Call Julie on 07803332245

www.squareonepilates.co.uk



Walton WI

Since the beginning of August, we have had a busy time running kurling gigs for Coxley and North Curry W.I.s plus the Weston Speakability Stroke Group in Weston Super Mare. Everyone enjoyed these friendly games, and we were always made very welcome.

Socially, members have supported both the Merriman Park and the Walton Family Fun Days, by selling refreshments. Ladies also participated in the Church organised Barn Dance and sixteen members enjoyed their Harvest Supper. The County run tour of the Stocklands Vineyard in Knowle with wine tasting and cream teas, and the County AGM [speakers included author Sally Mills and celebrity chef Lesley Waters] were well attended. In addition, we hosted a Pop-Up Fashion Show in aid of County funds at Walton Village Hall with W.I. representatives from other county institutes invited.

Our afternoon picnic in August proved popular affording another chance to purchase some remaining jumble sale items and join in games such as kurling, bingo and Jocolo. During our following two evening meetings we learnt about the Mosaic Project which will eventually include a permanent map of Central Wells and were shown some interesting aspects of jewellery. Since January twelve new members have joined us boosting our number to sixty-four.

Explore Your Local Area visits were to Fragrant Earth in Glastonbury and Batch Farm Cheesemakers in East Pennard. Our pastimes of croquet, table tennis and Ladies Who Brunch have continued to be popular and Walton walks have resumed when possible. The Craft group has taken a break and will resume in the New Year. Our skittles team has made a very good start in the County W.I. Cup a win by 40 pins against Pawlett in a match played in the Crown in Catcott.

As October this year marked our Golden Anniversary, we celebrated with an afternoon tea. Fifty-three members, two visitors, plus three County representatives, including the County Chair, had a very enjoyable afternoon. Our three founder members received large posies presented by our president who asked all our former presidents in attendance to join her in cutting the specially made cake from Sweet Delights. Former and present committee members, as well as our membership, were thanked for their contributions in making Walton W.I. such a success. Littleton Caterers supplied a varied selection of food, the colourful floral arrangements were made by Maggie Packer from the Thursday Indoor Market and Chris Holmes entertained us with his piano playing.

[Continued on page 5]

A Kaleidoscope of Butterflies. Walton Textiles Group

In a previous article we described a dress that our group were going to 'transform' for the Mayor of Wells 'New clothes' charity appeal which involved taking a wedding dress or ball gown and decorating it. Our members Gabbie and Heather had chosen a midnight blue Amanda Wakely ball gown and Heather lead a workshop making fabric origami butterflies to stitch on the dress.

Another member Jackie, embroidered daisies which were then stitched around the hem. Gabbie then worked hard adding on lots of sequins. This has been a very enjoyable group project and we are proud of the result. We would like to give a special mention to sponsors Lucy Neal Holistic Therapist, Walton and to Three Solutions of Shepton Mallet.

The dress has been handed in to the Mayor (who was reportedly thrilled with it) and is currently on display with others prior to a fashion show and auction in the New Year.

If anyone is interested in joining our group we meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month in Walton Village Hall from 1.30 to 4pm so please come along and meet us or phone 01458 445383 for more information

Barbara



Walton Community Speed Watch -

NEW SIGNS IN THE VILLAGE

PCSO Tim Richards has recently erected new signs at both ends of the village. Thank you.

Walton SpeedWatch team continues to go out regularly monitoring vehicle speeds and raising awareness about the 30 mph speed limit in Walton. We are occasionally joined by PCSO Tim Richards who advises and supports us. The Speed Enforcement Unit is often in Walton - we see cars, a motorbike and police standing by the roadside. Speed is a problem in every village but we are very well supported here in Walton. Speeding vehicles are reported to the police by the SpeedWatch team and some drivers are visited while others are sent a letter. ALL vehicles details remain on the police database so that persistent offenders are identified.

CAR STICKERS

The team obtained a grant from the Parish Council to get some car stickers printed and we are eager to share them with you. They are designed to sit in the back window. See the



sample at the end of the article.

Please email us at waltonspeedwatch@gmail.com if you want a sticker for your car.

MENDIP COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH AGM

Four of our SpeedWatch team attended the Mendip Community SpeedWatch AGM in Shepton Mallet on September 14th.

The evening was well supported and attended by Inspector Jo Wren, Officers from the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) and the Speed Enforcement Unit (SEU) and Mark Shelford the Police and Crime Commissioner.

There are around 300 Community SpeedWatch Members in the Mendip area in 30 groups. We completed over 1,000 hours at the roadside in Mendip. In Walton we try to be out at least once a week and with more volunteers we could be out more.

If you want to help to make Walton a safer place, please join our Team you can email us at waltonspeedwatch@gmail.com for more details.

Marilyn

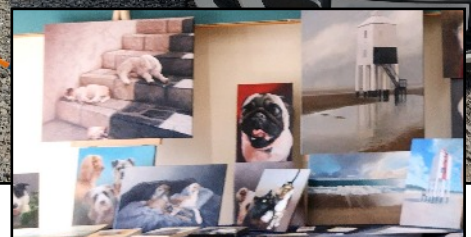
**SUPPORT COMMUNITY
SPEED WATCH**

Walton Family Funday

Organised by the Walton Trust, and happening every year in September, this is the main fundraising event for the village hall.

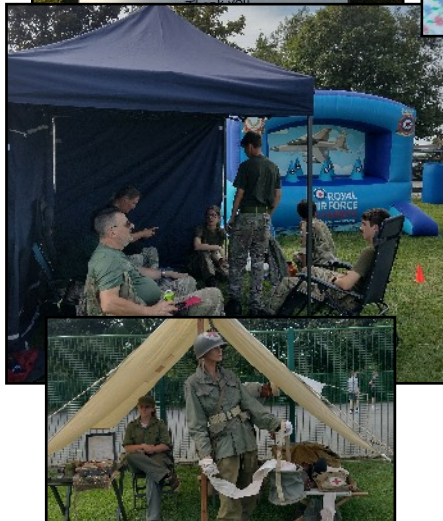
The day was bright and sunny and there were many events and stalls to interest and entertain the family. Including live music and evening fireworks

Thanks go out to all those who work both front of house and behind the scenes to help make this day happen. And thank You for coming!





Walton Fun Day
 We hope you enjoy the entertainment, music & fireworks.
 Walton Fun Day is the main fundraiser for Walton Village Hall. Please help us look after this important part of our community by making a small donation.
 You will find collection boxes on the bar and food stalls.



[WI continued from page 2]

During our meals we noted our favourite memory of our time as members. On display were our albums and projected scenes from the past, commemorative certificates and the County Skittles Cup won this year by our team. The competition, Something Golden, was very popular as was our bumper raffle. Later we danced to the upbeat music culminating in a fun conga. A very special occasion. The next meeting will be our Christmas party.

Jo Haydon



East Mead Community Area.

We are thrilled to share our ideas for the transformation of the current empty East Mead field in Walton into a vibrant community space. Our vision is to create a haven for families, a place where everyone can come to relax, unwind, and enjoy quality time together.

This community space will provide a safe and secure environment for individuals to escape the hustle and bustle of daily life. We envision a space where families can spread out a blanket, share a picnic, and enjoy each other's company surrounded by the beauty of nature.

In addition to being a space for families, we want this community area to be a sanctuary for individuals to prioritise their mental well-being. You can come here to escape the stresses of life, find solace, and reflect. Whether it's meditating in a quiet corner or practicing yoga in the open air, this space will offer opportunities for self-care and mental rejuvenation.

As part of our commitment to the environment, we plan to plant wildflowers throughout the area. These colourful blooms will not only enhance the aesthetics of the space but also provide a vital habitat for pollinators and contribute to the balance of our ecosystem, along with an exciting 'Bug Hotel' for nature to inhabit.

To ensure the space remains accessible in the evenings, we hope to install soft solar panelled festoon lighting. These lights will create an enchanting ambiance, allowing community members to enjoy the space during the darker

evenings. However, we are mindful of our responsibility to the wildlife in the area, and therefore, the lights will automatically switch off at night to protect and respect the natural environment.

Dogs are warmly welcomed in this space, however, in order to ensure the safety and tranquility for all visitors, we kindly request that you keep your dogs on a lead.

We are excited about the potential this community space holds, but we also value the input and feedback of our community members.



We encourage you to share your thoughts, suggestions, and ideas. Together, we can create a community space that reflects the needs and wishes of our community, where memories can be made and cherished for years to come.

Lewis Collins,
Walton Parish Councillor

Walton Under 5's Pre School

We've had a busy start to our Autumn term here at Preschool. The children have been making poppies for Remembrance Day and producing junk models of carnival floats. We will also be looking at Diwali this month and Hanukkah in December.

It's been wonderful to welcome some new families at Preschool this term too. We still have some places available so do get in touch if you'd like to discuss a place for your child. Call us on 07970 443157 or email us on waltonunderfives@yahoo.co.uk

As this year continues to fly by, our attention has turned towards our Christmas celebrations. Following on from last year's fantastic Christmas raffle, we are excited to announce that we have organised another brilliant raffle for you this year. We've been overwhelmed by the generosity of local businesses who have kindly provided us with prizes. Just a selection we've received so far include Millfield Enterprises who have donated a voucher worth £255 for their Easter Multi Sports Activity Camp, vouchers to use at The Square, Planet Volt, Ocean Adventurers, *[continued on next page]*

[Walton Under 5's pre school continued from previous page]

Brean Splash and Brean Play, tickets to watch Yeovil Town FC, a full valet worth £120 from Blackdown Motor Company (formerly Rowcliffes), Little City Somerset, a family ticket to the Bath & West, Strode theatre tickets, a full house clean courtesy of Crystal Clear and Burns The Bread vouchers to name a few.

Our list of contributors is continuing to grow each day so keep your eyes peeled on our poster which we'll be updating regularly with new prizes.



If you'd like to buy some raffle tickets then please pop in to preschool during our opening hours (Monday, Thursday, Friday 8am - 1pm and Tuesday and Wednesday 8am - 3pm) or send us a message via messenger. Alternatively you can email us at

waltonpreschoolcommittee@gmail.com

Tickets are just £1 per strip and available now so get your orders in !!!!

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH



We have had a busy few months including a very enjoyable and exhausting barn dance which got everyone's feet tapping even if they chose not to dance. A big thank you to Rough Round the Edges for their amazing playing and to Peter Bolton our caller for keeping us in order as much as possible.

We had a lovely harvest service followed by a splendid supper with more local entertainment. Well done everyone for working so hard and making these events happen.

As always it was a joy to welcome Walton school to church for their harvest service so wonderfully led by year 6. The school and the congregation donated so much for the food bank that it took 2 full car loads to deliver. Well done everyone.

Another big thank you goes to everyone who attended the MacMillan coffee morning on the 5th October. In an hour and a half an incredible £349.37 was raised for this wonderful cause and our grateful thanks go to each and everyone of you.

Some of us will make an early start on card writing by meeting in Church at 7.00 on the 2nd November. We will have some festive music playing and mince pies, tea, coffee and perhaps some mulled wine. If you can join us you will be very welcome.

Our last coffee morning of the year is on the 21st December when we will sing carols and have mince pies etc

We will be having a Carol service on the 17th December in church at 6.00 and we hope you can join us. This will be traditional with carols and readings. A beautiful way to bring in the calmness and joy of this season.

A nativity service will be held on Christmas eve at 4.00 where the Christmas story will be told especially for our young folk.

Midnight mass will start at 11.30 and lead us into Christmas day.

The theme for the Bath and Wells Diocese this Christmas is Follow the star: join the song. We will be joining in this in many ways but

I just wanted to give a heads up to our young people to keep their eyes open from the beginning of December. You never know what you can find when you are going to and fro school.





WALTON VILLAGE WEBSITE: www.waltonpc.org

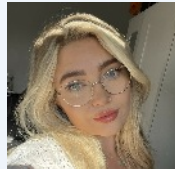
Pay a visit to the website to find out about local news, events and village information. You can leave comments, raise issues, ask questions, and find out more about your local community.

There is also the Walton Parish Council Facebook page for up to date information.

Your Parish Councillors...



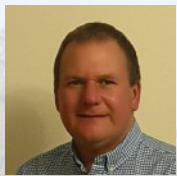
John Harvey
[Chairman]



Jaimi Bartlett



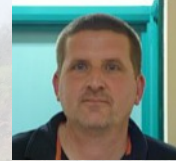
Lian Hardware



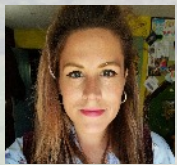
Bob Collins
[Vice Chairman]



Lewis Collins



Simon Loader



Rachel Ashman



Richard Crossman



Richard Vowles

Dates of Parish Council Monthly Meetings in 2023:

December 8th

And in the Spring of 2024:

12th January, 9th February, 8th March

All Meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to attend.

The monthly meetings are held on Fridays at 7pm in the village hall, generally the second Friday of every month unless otherwise stated - **check dates above** - interim meetings may also occur. The agendas for all meetings will be advertised on the website [www.waltonpc.org] and the village notice boards.

Somerset Councillors:

Ros.wyke@somerset.gov.uk
Heather.shearer@somerset.gov.uk

YOUR PCSO

PCSO 8919 Timothy Richards
Timothy.Richards@avonandsomerset.police.uk
Please remember, use 999 for emergencies

Somerset Unitary Council

0300 123 2224
www.somerset.gov.uk

The Parish Clerk

Helen Moore - contact details:

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Designed & compiled by H.Moore Edited by H.Moore & J.Harvey
Articles for information or consideration for inclusion in future editions can be sent to the parish clerk. Articles in this newsletter are gathered from the parish council, village & public sources & contributors. The information & views are accepted as factual & honest.

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