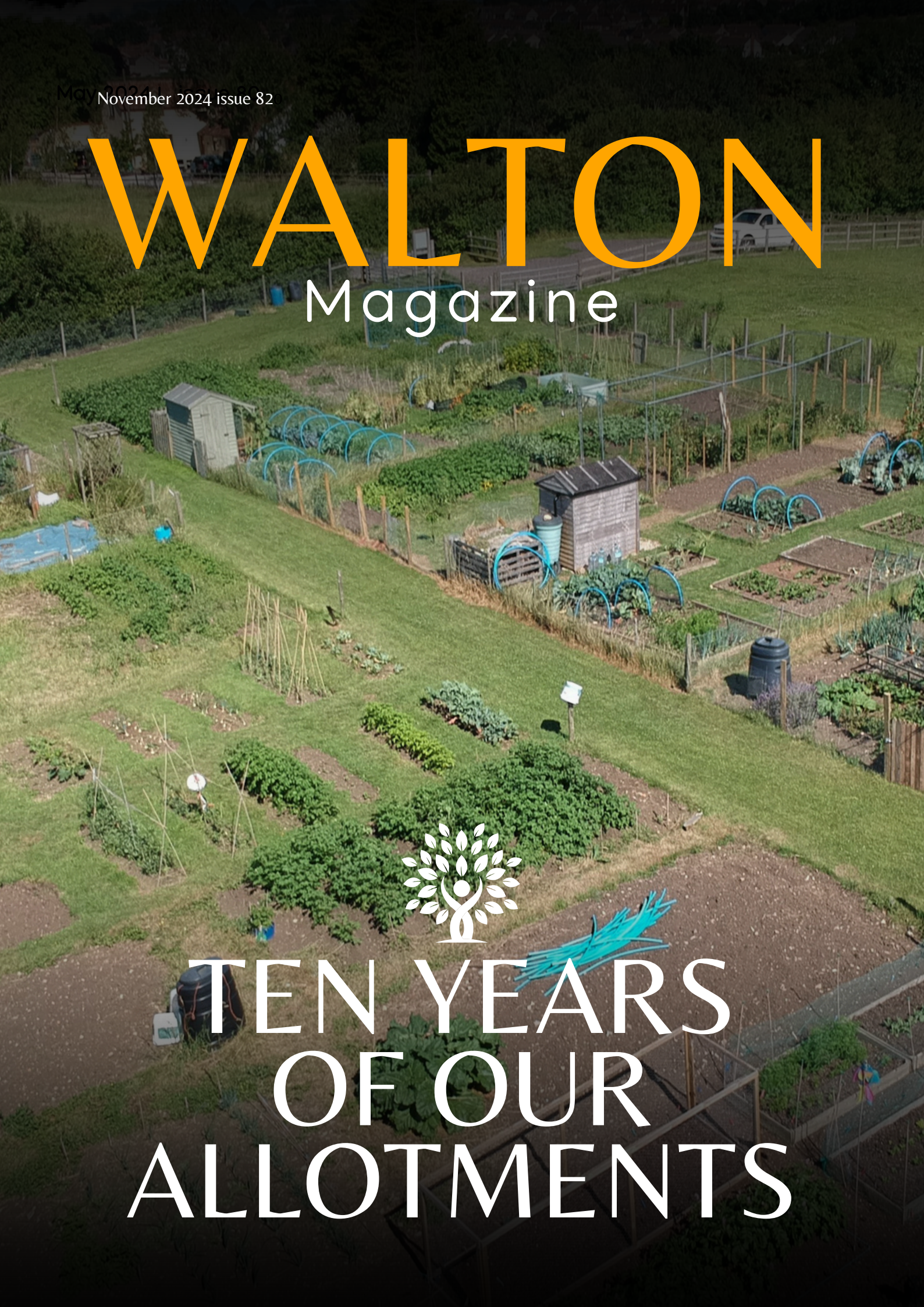
November 2024 issue 82

WALTON Magazine



TEN YEARS OF OUR ALLOTMENTS

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The autumn has really arrived now, but I never seems to hit until after the Walton Fun Day. This event, run by the Walton Trust, is always well supported and this year was no exception. Again, a great turnout, great entertainment (and food) and a great advert for our community. Many thanks to all who contributed time and effort. I know the Village Hall Committee is always eager for extra hands and however much or little you can contribute is welcomed.

This quarter, the council has reviewed a number of domestic planning applications, as well as the usual business such as reporting highway issues and keeping footpaths in order. Our ranger, Matt, has also made some repairs and improvements to the play park. The springies were maintained by the company that installed them and should be good for some time to come. East Mead Community Field is looking well, and is being used more and more. We will be sowing some wild flower seeds hope for a more colourful look next summer. You may have noticed that we installed a solar panel to the Speed Indicator Device, to reduce the need for battery changes and increase the amount of time it is functional. The council runs to some cycles set by central government, and budgeting is one of those. We are starting the cycle for next fiscal year, and have received grant requests from several local groups to consider an upcoming meetings.

The phone box library is proving popular, to the extent that keeping it in order is becoming a challenge. As you know, councillors undertake such tasks when they can, but any help you can give to keep it tidy and ordered is most welcome.

On a sad note, councillor Rachel Ashman has decided to step down. She has been a great contributor to the council, both in terms of time and ideas, often bringing a new viewpoint to discussions. She will be sorely missed and our thanks go to her for her time on the council.

As a result, we now have a vacancy for a parish councillor. Should anyone in the village want to join the council, please contact the Clerk, Helen Moore.

John Harvey
Chairman, Walton Parish Council





OUR COUNCILLORS



Chairman
John Harvey



Vice Chairman
Bob Collins

Parish Clerk
Helen Moore

Contact details
07957 249066
clerk@waltonsomerset-pc.gov.uk
Walton Village Hall,
Meadow Lane, BA16 9LA

Are you interested in making a positive impact on our community? We're seeking a new member to join our Parish Council. If you're passionate about local issues and want to contribute to our community's future, please contact our Clerk.



Jaimi Bartlett



Lewis Collins



Richard Crossman



Lian Hardware



Simon Loader



Richard Vowles

WALTON WI

Since the last report we have joined representatives from other Somerset W.I.s who supported various County organised events such as the Summer Quiz in Shepton Mallet, various craft days and events held locally, a Textile Lunch at the Shrubbery Hotel and the Annual Meeting in Millfield School in October. We were pleased to be able to have our August Annual Picnic outside this year at Walton Village Hall, when twenty members had a very enjoyable social afternoon. Later in the month fifteen participants spent a sunny afternoon at Blackmore Manor Farm where, following lunch, we looked around the gardens and enjoyed a guided tour of the Manor House.

During our evening meetings we have learnt about life on the fairground and the trials and tribulations of living on a remote island in the Seychelles. In respect of our regular activities, Ladies Who Brunch held in the Mullions has continued to be very popular as have indoor games which had replaced croquet for the winter, but table tennis, due to commitments, has taken a break until January. We have also continued with our away kurling gigs with a return visit to Coxley Village Hall.

Socially, in September we tea and cakes at both the Merriman Park Fete and the Walton Fun Day and supported the Church organised Harvest Supper in October. We were pleased to accept invitations to Compton Dundon W.I.'s Ninety-Fifth Anniversary Afternoon Tea and to the Autumn Group Meeting hosted this time by Westonzoyland W.I., both very well organised on the same day in October. At the former we were entertained by a singing group and at the latter by a pantomime dame.
During our popular monthly Explore Your Local Area feature, we have had guided tours around Rich's Cider Farm in Highbridge, The Glenda Spooner Horse Rehabilitation Farm in Kingsdon and the Wood Carving Studio in the Old School House in Walton.

Our next evening meeting will be our Christmas Party in Walton Village Hall when there will be lots of surprises and the competition will be A Decorated Bauble.

Jo Haydon





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WALTON UNDER 5'S PRE-SCHOOL

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

We are in full swing of another academic year here at Walton Under 5's Pre-School!

As with many charity run Pre-Schools we are governed by a voluntary Committee. After saying goodbye to some of our key Committee members at the end of the Summer, we have welcomed some new faces! Kay Aldous has joined us as our Chair and Carly Cox-Blake as our Treasurer. They are now leading the Committee and working alongside our wonderful Pre-School staff to support the children with their learning and development for yet another year. This being said, we have a vacancy for our Secretary role! If you are interested in joining our Committee, to share your ideas and experience, and to meet new people, please get in touch!

Following the support of the community over the past year, the funds raised are going towards a makeover for our Pre-School Garden! The children's outdoor space has been extended with a new fence erected, adding a lot more space for the children to play. We plan on developing the garden with new play equipment and hopefully some soft surface to make it useable all year round. Thank you to all of the volunteers who have given up their time to help, it is hugely appreciated!





As the weather is reminding us, Summer'24 is now a thing of the past, but Christmas is fast approaching! Hooray! **Our annual Christmas performance of the Nativity will be taking place on Tuesday 17th December,** an opportunity for our children to sing their little hearts out to their favourite festive classics for their families to enjoy. This performance also lends itself to one of our main fundraising events of the year, the Christmas Raffle. There will be much on offer to have the chance of winning, everything from cash prizes to free haircuts and even a 2-night stay at Thornhills Holiday Park in Othery! If you are in a position to donate a give-away for our Raffle, we'd love to hear from you. Remember you have to be in it to win it, so if you'd like to buy any raffle tickets, please come by the Pre-School at Walton Village Hall during opening hours and speak to one of our members of staff who will be happy to help!

If you are considering enrolling your child at Walton Under 5's, thinking about joining our Committee, or curious about supporting our future fundraising events, please contact us on 07970 443157 or email waltonunderfives@yahoo.co.uk.

WHAT'S ON IN THE VILLAGE HALL?

- Walton textile group 1.30–4pm 2nd and 4th week of the month – Mondays
- Doryokuru 5–8.15pm Mondays – (may change in school holidays)
- WI table tennis 3.45–5.15pm – Tuesdays
- Parkinsons group 2–4pm last Tuesday of the month
- Badminton – 7.30–9.30pm – Tuesdays
- Pilates 3.30–4pm – Wednesdays & 6–7pm Tuesdays
- Snowdrops [was Meet & Greet] 2pm–4pm 1st and 3rd week of the month – Wednesdays
- Somerset kick boxing 5.30 to 630pm – Wednesdays
- Latin in Line 7–9pm – Wednesdays
- Latin in Line 1.45–4.30pm – Thursdays
- Step in Time 7–9.30pm – Thursdays
- WI 7–10pm second Thursday of the month
- Wyrral Park Bowls 7–9pm – Fridays September to March

Check the village hall website for full details - waltonvillagehall.org

ONE OFF EVENTS INCLUDE:

- 7th December 2024, village hall 25 years old events –
  Afternoon – displays and refreshments 2pm to 5pm
  Evening Barn Dance 7.30 pm to 10pm – tickets need to be booked in advance.
- Tuesday 17th December, for Pre-School family & carers – the annual Christmas performance of the Nativity.



NOT TO FORGET:

Messy Church

AT HOLY TRINITY WALTON

CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

3RD DECEMBER STRAIGHT AFTER SCHOOL.

WALTON VILLAGE HALL 25TH CELEBRATIONS

7 TH DECEMBER 2024

IN THE AFTERNOON THE HALL WILL BE OPEN 2pm – 5pm

There will be static and live displays from the hall user groups, together with the story/history of the halls inception with memorabilia and photos of the past. Maybe you could spot yourself or a family member at a fund raiser 25+ years ago. Did you visit the building site when you were at Walton School? or write a letter in Mrs Burrows class stating your hopes and wishes for the site. Come along and join us for a cup of tea and see what is available on a weekly/monthly basis for all the community together with a little nostalgia.

IN THE EVENING 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm there will be a BARN DANCE

It will be a lot of fun for our community to enjoy. (There will be a caller) Tickets will be £7.50. Due to the space required for dancing, the numbers will have to be limited so if you could join us we would love to see you. For tickets email asap to jenny.ponsillo@btinternet.com I look forward to hearing from you.



If you are new to the village or under the age of 30 you may be interested to know a little of the history of the hall. Or the following may serve as a memory for you if you witnessed it. I deeply regret not writing a diary but life was so hectic, this is my remembered version.

Walton many years ago had a football and a cricket field and teams.
I have a Football minute book dated 1950 – 1968.
(Football was held in the field behind the Royal Oak) I also have a Cricket minute book dated 1947 – 1950. Cricket was in the field on the corner of South Street they even had a cricket pavilion. sadly, the land was reclaimed. In 1977 a Playing Field Association Committee was formed by Keith Caddy (Chair) and Brian Francis (Secretary) together with others they raised funds for a sports field for the village. Whilst fund raising, they made approaches to the village land owners without success. With no success the money was frozen but they still kept a look out for land. Eight years from when they first started (1985) there was a planning application from Polden Farms for residential and recreational use in what is now Meadow Lane estate, A meeting was arranged with Polden farms and the chairs of all the original organizations who were previously involved with the Playing Field to see if the dream could at last become a reality. One of the organisations reps was Rob the then curate of Walton Church.After the first meeting it was decided by all that it would be worth going for it. Rob knocked on my door handed me some paper work and said I think this is for you to pursue. He did this because I had been looking into doing a church renovation to accommodate a village hall type meeting place but was getting nowhere.
At the first meeting in 1992 it was decided that we should start fundraising immediately.To get a grant from anyone meant we had to raise a lot of money to prove we were serious. So off we went and organized 6 Fetes, dog shows, sponsored bike rides, walks, dances, bingo and many more things. Six years later we had reached our target. We must remember Mr and Mrs Willcox who converted their ex chicken hut in Eastmead Lane into a working space, and together with the field, the village would use it for many events. We were also gifted the frozen money from the original playfield assoc, the Toch H, and the old village hall (which is now 55 Main Street). We were also very fortunate in receiving very generous donations from many varied directions. It was all adding up. We then hit the jackpot by getting the National Lottery money, the last puzzle piece, and we had the green light to build the village hall.
The reason the hall came first was we failed to get the sports lottery money. The National Lottery would only cover the building not the field, but fortunately the field was not that far behind and it is still a joy to me to see so many people using it.

Jenny Ponsillo

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH



A huge thank you to our wonderful community who turned out to support the MacMillan coffee morning on September 19th. In an hour and a half we managed to eat enough cake and drink enough tea and coffee to raise £534.95 for this wonderful charity. The church was buzzing with conversation and laughter and the cake makers excelled themselves. Well done everyone.

Our Harvest festival was also another memorable weekend with a wonderful hot supper on the Friday, a Deal or no Deal quiz followed by Rough Round the Edges playing for us enabling us to sing along. Saturday saw a team of ladies who decorated the church beautifully with the harvest theme. (Are there no men flower arrangers?)
Our service on the Sunday was joyful as always and on the Tuesday morning we welcomed the school children and staff for their service. The year 6 children led this service and the readings, prayers and songs were so very special and meaningful. More than one of the songs and readings touched on sharing and looking after those less well off than us and realising how blessed we are with all we have. I enclose a photo of the donations from the school and the church folk which meant we took 3 car loads of food and toiletries to the food bank to pass on to those less fortunate.

We are busy at the moment packing Shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child organised by Samaritans Purse. This is a charity we have supported for many years and we are so grateful to all who buy, pack or donate towards this lovely Christmas gifting to children in over 100 countries. We push so much into our boxes, soap, toothbrush, school equipment and of course cuddly toys and fun gifts. It gives us such pleasure to see the videos of the children opening their boxes together usually in schools everywhere. Last year our gifts went to the Ukraine and we wait to see where they will go this year. We will drop these boxes off on the 11th November ready to wing their way to their destinations.

We had a lively Messy Church on the 8th October were again the church was packed with children, parents , grandparents of carers. Lots of different crafts were made on the harvest theme and games were enjoyed plgs pizza of course. Our Christmas Messy Church will be on the 3rd December straight after school and we would love to see your primary school age children then.



Holy Trinity Churchyard is a precious place for many, particularly for those who have loved ones buried there. Over the last few years, we have been taking steps to ensure that our records of previous and reserved grave spaces are up to date. Visitors to the churchyard will therefore have seen notices adjacent to empty grave spaces seeking to clarify whether these have in fact been reserved. To make sure we know of any previous reservations, we would ask you to contact us by the end of this calendar year at the very latest if you think you have reserved a grace space and haven't already spoken to us. Thank you for your help and understanding

Ann Lawrence & Sandra Gristock

WALTON ALLOTMENTS
10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

It's hard to believe that ten years have passed since Walton Allotment Society was formed and the Parish Council handed over the site.WPC had worked extremely hard to acquire the land and help us to set up the Society.
The agreement between Walton Parish Council and Walton Allotment Society was signed on 13th September 2014. 24 plots were marked out by Gary and Robert, each with an area of 120 sq metres which is half the size of the National Allotment Society standard plot.
On Sunday 19th October 2014, the plots were handed over.





We now have 23 plots and a communal area with seats and fruit trees. At first we had several unlet plots but we now have a waiting list. Six of the original tenants are still plot holders.











A wide variety of fruit and vegetables are grown and plot holders share hints and produce. We have a water supply and a small car park and we can see Glastonbury Tor and Walton Windmill from our plots. We are very fortunate to have such a beautiful site.

Thank you Walton Parish Council for your support in setting up Walton Allotments. We are all looking forward to the next ten years.

If you want to join our waiting list please email:
waltonallotmentsociety@gmail.com



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Tesco
10.30am – 3.30pm

Frome
Mon 9th Dec
ASDA
10.30am – 3.30pm

Shepton Mallet
Mon 11th Nov
Tesco
10.30am – 3.30pm

SOMERSET LIBRARIES
WINTER COAT EXCHANGE

Street Community Library are participating in the Winter Coat Exchange. They already have a lovely lot of coats in fab condition at the library. Please drop in to get more info or read from the link below.
https://www.somerset.gov.uk/news/winter-coat-exchange-expands-across-somerset/

* You can take a coat without making a donation.
* You can donate a coat without taking one.
* All donations must be of good quality and in a clean condition.
* Coats of any shape or size, for adults or children are accepted.
* Donors are asked to hand items directly to a member of staff at one of the participating libraries.

Street Community Library – 6 Leigh Road, Street, BA16 OHL
[open: Mon,Wed,Thur, Friday 9:30am to 5pm & Saturdays 9:30am to 1:30pm]

For more information or to participate in the Coat Exchange scheme, please visit your nearest participating library, on Facebook @somersetlibrariesuk or contact librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk

EAST MEAD COMMUNITY FIELD







Autumn has given us the opportunity to plant some wildflower seeds to bring more colour to the area and encourage pollinators – an area is taped off to help the seeds to get established.

The next step is to put a shelter over the picnic bench to make it more useable in our varied weather. We hope to get this installed in the near future. Further ideas are in the pipeline for next year.

Finally, a reminder that although dogs are welcome they must be kept on a lead at all times.



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MAKE A CHANGE - BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Walton
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YOU NEED:

An interest in your local community.
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Being a Councillor is all about giving back to your community by bringing your energy, passion, and hard-working attitude.
You can make a real difference to the local community and wider society in many ways as a Councillor.
For example, you could be representing the views of local people to ensure the community gets the right services, supporting a resident with an issue, or helping to shape the community by driving new ideas.
Being a Councillor is a varied and highly fulfilling role. You don't need any experience, and you'll gain lots of new skills, experience, knowledge, and confidence.

INTERESTED?

Why not chat to one of your current Councillors? [see them on page 3] or contact the Parish Clerk
07957 249 066

Councillors say:

"I'm excited to be a voice for the youth of our community. At 29, I hope to bring a unique perspective and a commitment to building a better future for us all. I'm passionate about bringing fresh energy and a modern perspective. Together we can aim to foster a greener environment, promote community safety , and create spaces where our community can thrive" Lewis.

"As a young member of our community, I'm passionate about preserving our village's unique character. I'm committed to creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and heard. By protecting our precious green spaces and celebrating our rich history, we can ensure a sustainable future for generations to come" Jaimi.

"Being a member of such a varied, enthusiastic and truly diverse Council has been a privilege. We strive to make the village environment better for the whole community and seeing the progress made and people enjoying the results is greatly satisfying" John.



USEFUL CONTACTS

The Royal Oak – 01458 899883
Walton Primary School – 01458 443675
Walton Holy Trinity Church – 01458 442671
Walton village Hall – 07436 284129

PSCO 8919 Tim Richard – timothy.richards@avonandsomerset.police.uk

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Western Power Distribution – 0800 365 900
National Grid (for power cuts) – 105
Wessex Water – 0845 6004600
Environment Agency – 0800 807060
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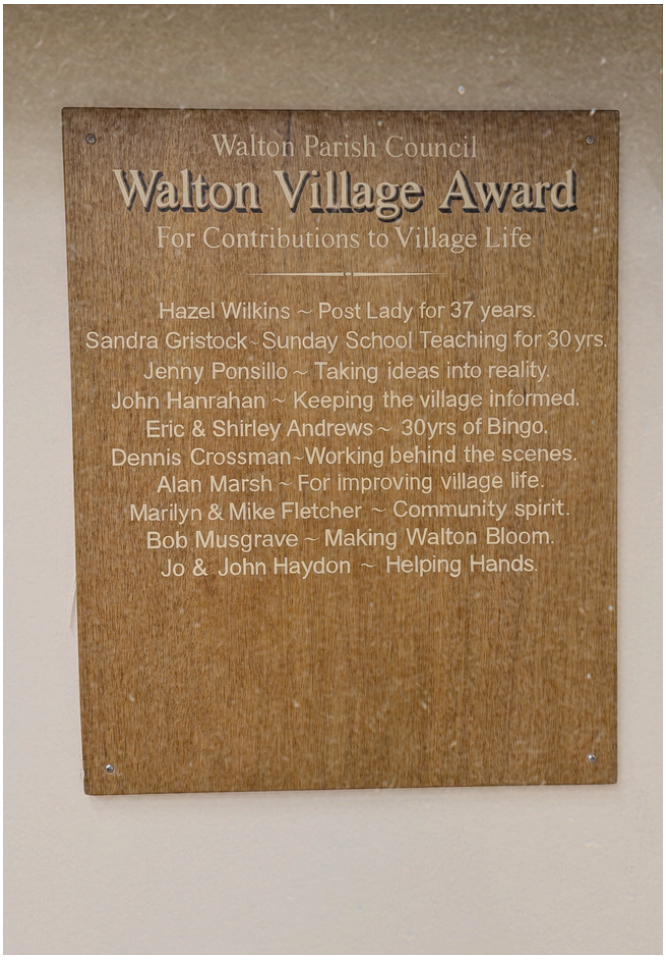
WALTON VILLAGER AWARD

Do you know someone who has done outstanding service to the community?

Someone who has made a difference to the lives of people living here?

Someone who deserves to have their contribution to Walton recognised?

Walton Villager award scheme was introduced by the Parish Council in March 2008 in order to recognise service to the community.
Residents can make nominations for the award which will not be given on a regular basis [as an example it need not be given annually] it would be given only when the Parish Council recognises an action or achievement within, or about, Walton that merits the award being given.
The name of the recipient of the award will be entered on a roll of honor which hangs in the village hall and a written record will be held by the Parish Council for future generations detailing what was done that made recipients elgible for the award.



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