



## No. 70—Winter 2020

Dear Carol Singers,

The government has given outdoor socially-distanced carol singing the all clear! Please feel free to come and sing carols on the beach outside the Sailing Club on:

**Sunday 20th December at 3.30pm**

There will be a collection bucket for the Salvation Army who look after homeless people and other people in need, so feel free to bring a donation in cash.

The Sailing Club floodlights will be on to help people to see their way, however, you may still wish to bring your own lights/lanterns. The usual laminated song sheets will be available. We are very thankful to have the huge talents of Jackie Brinsley, Anna Carter and Neil Cawthorn to lead the singing.

There will be no refreshments, so please bring your own if required. Households of no more than 6 can stand in bubbles which must be 2 metres apart. We can spread out along the beach as far as is needed. Each household is responsible for their own social distancing and there should be no mingling before or after the singing. Please understand that if you choose to attend it is at your own risk.

Best wishes,  
Mariah Ballam



A star of kindness shines brightly over Waldringfield. Villagers have donated a huge number of items of food and toiletries for the Salvation Army to distribute to those in need over this year (one that has been difficult for so many) – an amazing effort which is much appreciated! Crafters have even been busy knitting some lovely teddies, woolly hats and pram blankets. Sadly, the number of individuals and families requiring support is growing.



There will be one more collection of food staples, toiletries and seasonal goods before Christmas. If you would like to contribute, donations can be left in the collecting crate inside the garage of 9a Sullivan Place until **16th December**. (If possible, please put items in a plastic bag or box.)

With every best wish,  
Liz Lord & Jane Burley



## 2020 – What a Year!

No one could have predicted how 2020 would evolve. For me, the year began in the usual manner of inviting family and friends to a lunch drinks get-together to welcome in the New Year. It was a jolly affair. How little did I appreciate the ease with which we all laughed and chatted. All quite natural.

My council work began as per normal, in the new year, through meetings at County HQ, attending parish councils and giving a report, following up on any issues that needed addressing, responding to emails. All satisfactory and typical. However, all has changed and although I have not personally attended meetings in the past six months I have, through the wonders of Zoom, been able to continue giving reports and addressing problems.

Perhaps the most contentious issue is that of planning. Concern is huge regarding large developments and I, and my division, contested the building of over 2,700 houses planned at Brightwell, Adastral Park. We managed to keep it in abeyance for seven years. Unfortunately, we were not successful and it is going ahead. But the main worry now is infrastructure and that the road system will be able to cope with the increase in traffic.

It is of great concern that the government white paper “Planning for the Future” and “Changes to the Current Planning System” propose the removal of local authority control and of the public’s right to object. This is a scandalously unjust act. CPRE, the countryside charity, believes that it is our democratic right to object and have issued a paper defending the local voice and I have signed this paper. I understand that local authorities up and down the country are stating their enormous worry.

Keeping oneself busy during yet another lockdown is a challenge. Apart from council work I do have much to do in the garden. The ever bending and stretching keeps one fit. No need for gym or swimming. I also keep fit by the constant running up and down stairs as I am forever forgetting to bring down a vital piece of...

I have rediscovered old films to watch at the weekend. The dialogue is free from four letter swear words and war films give a good old British uplift. I feel, dare I say, proud.

We keep in touch with our children and grandchildren during the week and have lately taken to Zooming. It is great to see and hear the grandchildren and learn what they are doing at school.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and I hope that the pandemic will be arrested and that we can spend Christmas with family.

*Patricia O’Brien, County Councillor for Martlesham Division*



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**Next Copy Date – 12th February  
(for publication 1st March)**



## Census 2021 will Provide a Snapshot of Modern Society

Households across Waldringfield will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

“A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed,” Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said. “This could mean things like doctors’ surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That’s why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them.”

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://www.census.gov.uk)

## For Patients of Martlesham Heath & The Birches Surgeries

My last news item flagged up a forthcoming joint patient survey, which we had hoped to publish in December editions of local magazines and on both surgery’s websites. Unfortunately, just as we were approaching the publication deadlines, we are now back in lockdown and regrettably, we are having to postpone this. We will review the situation and will get the survey out to you as soon as possible in the new year.

Both surgeries are participating in a programme called Connect for Health, which is designed to support patients in finding non-clinical solutions to improve their health and wellbeing. People who could benefit from this service could be referred by their GP, a nurse, a carer, or via self-referral. This service aims to support patients who:

- \*have one or more long-term conditions
- \*need support with mental health
- \*are lonely or isolated
- \*have complex social needs affecting their wellbeing.

This is what to expect: “Our community connectors can spend time with you exploring what activities or what support could help improve your health and wellbeing. You can talk to them in confidence and they will be able to give practical, helpful, non-judgemental advice on a whole host of issues.”

During the current pandemic all appointments are telephone-based. To contact a Connect for Health link worker, please call: Jasmine Ross on 07967 395985 or Dominique Dale 07790 922228. They work for the Shaw Trust, which is the organisation providing this service for our two practices (as well as practices in Woodbridge, Wickham Market and Alderton).

As always, patients of Martlesham Heath surgery are welcome to send me their views at [MartPPG@gmx.co.uk](mailto:MartPPG@gmx.co.uk) about any general issues to do with the surgery (not personal health issues please, which are confidential and we are not qualified to comment on).

We wish you all good health and a happy Christmas.

Prue – Chair, Martlesham Heath PPG (*in collaboration with the chair of The Birches PPG*)



## Waldringfield Wildlife Group

Winter is a good time to forward plan for the Spring and think about the actions we can take in Waldringfield to support Suffolk wildlife conservation agencies to help halt the massive decline in UK wildlife.

There are two simple things we can each do in Waldringfield before the onset of Spring.

**Help Swifts:** Install a Swift Nest Box.

**Help Hedgehogs:** Check your garden boundaries to ensure that hedgehogs can travel between gardens.

### Swifts

You may have read the WWG article written for the Autumn online Parish Newsletter about the Save Our Swift Project which draws attention to the decline of Swift numbers; they have fallen by 53% in the past 25 years and Swifts are now an amber listed species. To recap the primary reason for this decline has been the lack of suitable nesting spots. Swifts migrate to the UK from Africa and use the same nest site every year. These nest sites are most often in crevices in buildings – such as gaps under roof tiles, or in the eaves. However as many older buildings are renovated or knocked down, as we are seeing in Waldringfield, this renders the Swifts effectively homeless. It is an easy step to reverse this trend! Incorporate Swift Bricks into your new house build project or install a Swift Box on the outside of the building.

I have several Swift Boxes sitting in my garage waiting to be rehomed. WWG has a team of helpers who are happy to advise you on how to install a Swift Box or to incorporate a Swift Brick into your new build (or alternatively you can discuss these ideas with your architect).

We are lucky here in Waldringfield to still have Swifts visiting us from May onwards. We know of two Swift nesting sites – one of which is in a building which will soon be refurbished. Fortunately, these lucky property owners have already taken steps to protect their Swift colony by consulting with Swift enthusiasts, their architect and purchasing Swift Boxes to ensure new homes are provided for the Swift family.

So, please do your bit for wildlife that we so enjoy and install a Swift Box or two.

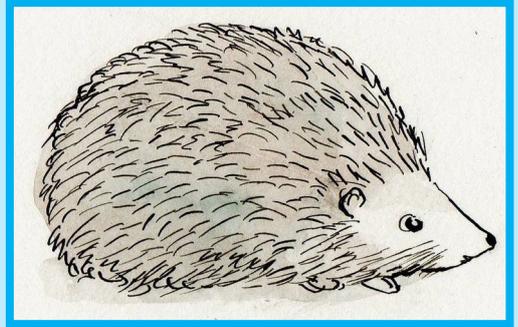


*Photo thanks to Swift Conservation*

*Did you know that house sparrows, house martins, blue tits, great tits, starlings and nuthatches have all been recorded nesting in Swift Bricks. House sparrows and starlings are on the red list.*

## Hedgehogs

Help save Britain's hedgehogs with Hedgehog Highways. Hedgehogs are also in serious trouble. Repeated studies have shown that the nation's favourite animal is being wiped out. It is estimated that numbers are already down 95% since the 1950s. Christine Fisher Kay has written a number of articles for the Parish Newsletter and given us all helpful tips on how we can conserve and care for the hedgehogs that we know roam our village. But there is one simple thing we can all do to save them. Make a 13cm hole in the bottom of your garden fence and talk to your neighbour to encourage them to do the same. That's a start at least.



*Illustration by Claudia Myatt*

Why? A key cause of hedgehogs dying out is that our landscapes are being fenced off into even smaller fragments. We need to ensure that our gardens allow for Hedgehog Highways – a 13cm hole in the bottom of a fence that allows hedgehogs to move freely between gardens to find food and to mate.

With these two efforts under our belts we can look forward to Spring and the unfolding of wildlife that we so enjoy.

Contact Linda Wilkins for more information and to collect a Swift Box. Volunteers are also welcome to help our team of installers. If you would like to read the Swift article in the Autumn Parish Newsletter, it can be accessed on <http://waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/news/>

*Linda Wilkins, Coordinator of Waldringfield Wildlife Group [linda.thequay@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.thequay@btinternet.com)*

## East Suffolk Council Environmental Guidance Note

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/environment-guidance-note/>

East Suffolk Council has produced an Environmental Guidance Note to support its environmental vision and in response to the climate emergency as recognised by the Council in 2019. The guidance note supports the Council's vision of building the right environment for East Suffolk, as well as the Council's ambitions to become a carbon neutral council and work with others to make Suffolk as a whole carbon neutral by 2030.

The guidance note offers information on a range of key environmental issues relating to the building industry. The guidance will assist those seeking to mitigate the impact of construction on climate change by offering support and advice on a range of key environmental issues.

The topics addressed in the guidance note are:

Energy Efficiency

Renewable Energy

Nature and Wildlife

Siting and Orientation

Sustainable Travel

Surface water run-off

Water Conservation

Materials and Waste

East Suffolk Council supports ecological enhancements on its own land, including through the introduction of Swift Boxes and green roofs at East Suffolk House in Melton and changes to how areas of grass and other vegetation is managed to benefit wildlife.

Each of the key environmental topics includes a summary of the issues, what East Suffolk Council is doing in relation to the issue, what to aim for in new development, and key sources for further information.



## Waldringfield Gardeners We Welcome NEW Members!

We all agree how lucky we are to have the sanctuary, veg and flower beds, wildlife haven or whatever your garden has meant to you over in this year of 2020. Looking forward to the coming gardening year, and reflecting on the last in our recent AGM (on Zoom of course!), we have still had a lot of fun: maintaining the Scattered Orchard; sharing ideas for new beds or complete garden redesign; swapping seeds and seedlings and tips on cuttings; sharing yields of fruit and veg; and occasional 'socially-distanced' sneak peeks throughout the seasons.

### In 2021 we plan (fingers crossed) to include the following:

- \*Informative talks, and perhaps a fruit tree pruning course
- \*Group visits, eg to RHS Hyde Hall, Wakelyns Agroforestry Farm and Peach and Pippin fruit orchard
- \*Workshops for plant supports and for floral and Christmas greenery displays
- \*Open Gardens Trail, contributing as usual to St Elizabeth Hospice
- \*Produce Show, Pumpkin Party with Lantern Parade, Phone Box community resource for seed swaps etc.

We will publish a programme in January.

We have a WhatsApp group, RHS affiliated membership, composting expertise, an apple press and bottling steriliser, cut price seeds from Kings Seeds – and lots of energy and enthusiasm! We also have a mission (from when we started as WALGA) to acquire allotment plots somewhere in the vicinity to further our yield of glorious produce!

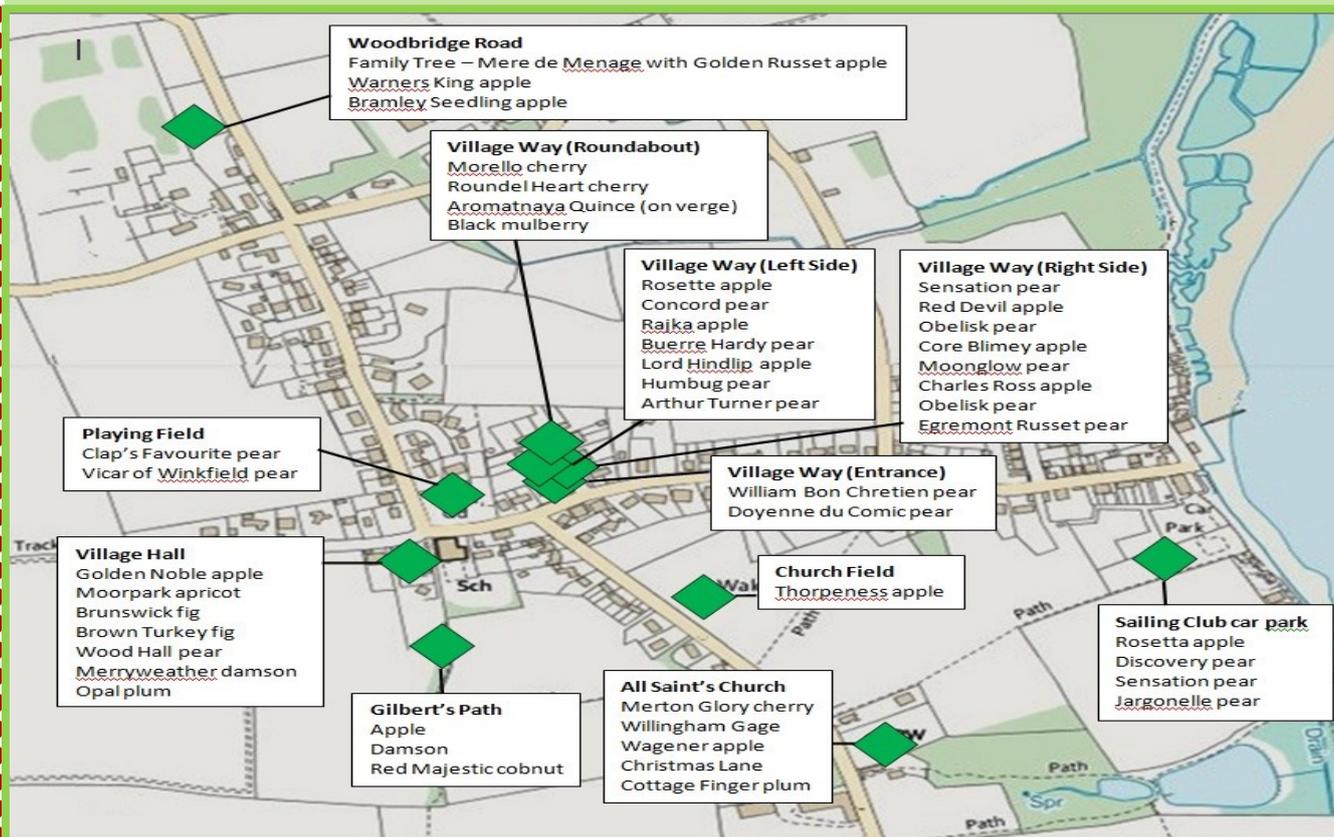
### If you would like more information or would like to join us, please contact:

Sue Quick (Chair) Rivendell, Cliff Road 07768586068 [suequick@yahoo.com](mailto:suequick@yahoo.com)

Betsy Reid (Sec) Dormers, Cliff Road, 01473 736506 [betsyr@talk21.com](mailto:betsyr@talk21.com)

**Subs:** £5 annually, payable by BACS (contact Alexis Smith, Treasurer [g1dik@btinternet.com](mailto:g1dik@btinternet.com) for bank details) or cheque or cash through the door at Dormers, Cliff Road.

*Scattered Orchard map – these trees will bloom in the Spring and bear in the Summer fruit for us all to share.*



### Allotments

Many in the village have increased their veg-growing during lockdown and may feel the need for more space. The Parish Council has a duty to find a site if a minimum of six electors in the Parish register their desire for an allotment with the Parish Clerk (Smallholdings and Allotment Act 1908). We have well over this number on the list – but more would add weight.

If you would like an allotment – or a half or a quarter – please register your need with the Parish Clerk [pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com](mailto:pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com)

### Garden Share

A plot available for your veggies on School Road – lovely view over the river!

At least one household in the village has registered that they would like someone to take over their veg garden – about the size of a usual allotment. First-come first-served for this tempting offer! No money either way – regard it as part of the ‘gift economy’.

Does anyone else have part of their garden that they would like someone else to care for? There are a number of people wanting a veg plot!

### Waldringfield Gardeners Surveys

WG has three surveys ongoing – Hotbin, gardening this lockdown year, and what WG could do for you.

The **Hotbin Survey** has already had 16 respondents and the results are informative for future action. They would be even more so if more fully representative – if you are one of the dozen or so people who own a Hotbin and have this on your getting-round-to-it-list please push it to the top!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WKTVDS7>

Waldringfielders have been fascinated by the History Group’s Waldringfield book this summer – filling in the survey **2020 gardening – what changed** about how you have used and thought about your garden in this year when you have been more than ever in it would be a very useful resource for the History Group – and for the WG committee to know what to build on. Please find time for this one too!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/39QKVCQ>

And finally, whether or not you are a member of WG we are interested in what you think a gardening association could be providing for the village. (No link at this present time.)

As you may know, the Parish Council is required to seek to provide allotments if there is sufficient demand from parishioners. There is clearly a demand and in co-operation with WALGA we have done some initial investigations, but so far haven’t managed to find any sites in or near the village that landowners would be willing to rent. The requirements are:

\*6,000 to 9,000 square metres (1.5 to 2.2 acres) without a community orchard, 14,000 square metres (3.5 acres) with a community orchard. Obviously the size would, to a large extent, depend on the location.

\*Access to mains water.

\*Vehicular access.

Although purchase is theoretically possible, a more likely arrangement is rental, at agricultural rates. An agreement would have to be drawn up between the landowner, the Parish Council and the Allotment Association. These are normally for extended periods, such as 14 years, with options to renew or, if the arrangement is terminated, the land would be returned to the owner in its original condition. All legal and other expenses would be paid for by the Allotment Association, with possible help from outside sources of funding.

If anyone owns land they would be willing to consider renting for allotments, or knows anyone who might be interested, please contact either the PC’s Clerk, Rebecca Todd (see contact details on back page) or Betsy Reid (736506), who will be able to provide more information.

*Ian Kay (Chair of Waldringfield Parish Council)*

## A Tree Warden Writes



*Wild cherry in flower*

It's the time of year to plant trees and once again I have FREE trees to give out to anyone who can find a spot where they can grow to maturity and give us all the benefit of their beauty in flowers and foliage, fruits and shade and not least removing carbon from the atmosphere.

I have about 50 trees of different species to plant in hedgerows, gardens and farmland so if you have room for one, two or a few please get in touch. They vary from potentially large trees such as oak, wild cherry and hornbeam to smaller or intermediate size crab apple, rowan, field maple and silver birch. All are at present quite small, cell grown and 30-75cm tall but these are the best size to be more certain of success as larger bare root trees take longer to establish and are more likely to be overtaken. They will need watering and weeding through the summer especially if it is another scorcher like last summer with almost no rain for three months.

I also have another allocation of 100m worth of hedging plants to plant in and around the village. The trees and the hedging are provided by the Suffolk Tree Warden Network, sponsored by the Tree Council, the Woodland Trust and Suffolk County Council. I will be arranging work parties once the restrictions are clear – it looks as if a maximum of six people working at 2m distance from each other will be allowed.

Last year we planted several hedges around the parish with varying success – the ones along Mill Road organised by Mariah Ballam have done very well, some of the others were targeted by muntjac with a penchant for small trees. Future planting will include spikey prunings stuck around the trees in addition to the tree guards.

As there is likely to be a huge demand for young trees as more and more people and organisations are promising to plant them, Suffolk Tree Warden Network have begun a project to grow our own from seed for future plantings. In Waldringfield several of us are helping to produce lots of seedling trees including Waldringfield Primary School reception class. Some of the trees are destined for the Healing Woods which Suffolk County Council are planning. Others will be used locally in hedges and possibly be shared between other villages.

If you think the trees will take too long to grow, look at the ones growing round the edges of the school playing field. These were planted as little saplings 25 years ago this autumn.



*Norway Maple*

*Christine Fisher Kay, Tree Warden, 736384*

## Waldringfield Hedge Heroes

On a frosty and foggy Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 17 volunteers from the village and beyond turned out to plant over 200 metres of hedging at two sites in the village. We have restored the gaps in the hedge which runs along the side of Mill Cottage, Mill Road and up to the wooded walkway, and we have also continued planting the hedge that we began last year which runs up Mill Road from Plum Tree Cottage – this stretch of new hedge is now well over 250 metres long in total. We worked in socially-distanced groups of no more than 6, with multiple materials stations at each site so that groups did not need to meet one another.

This year we got free trees from the Woodland Trust who are very happy to provide packs of free trees to community groups wanting to plant on either public or private land, so long as you have the landowner's permission. We also planted many saplings that were potted up and given to me by several kind village residents.

*Continued on next page...*

Before the latest lockdown began, a few of us met to have a go at making a 'rewilded test hedge'. We dug the ground over and laid a variety of different seeds in a stretch of about 5 metres, which we then covered with soil and mulched with straw. Some of the seeds had to be soaked to break down the skins etc. We will wait to see if anything germinates this year. If this process does work it would be wonderful, as self-seeded trees and plants usually grow with more health and vigour than anything planted by humans.

If you happen to find and pot up any native saplings that you would like to donate to our ongoing project, then please do get in touch with Mariah Ballam on 07709485979 or [mariahskellorn@hotmail.com](mailto:mariahskellorn@hotmail.com)

## Waldringfield Church Field Trust Update

The Church Field has been well used this year, with usually a few people walking or jogging round and with games of football and use of the basketball practice area being much more evident. It was very dry but most areas greened up again quickly when the wetter weather came. The Trustees were not able to have the May meeting due to Covid restrictions but we managed to have a socially distanced meeting on the field by September. The Annual General Meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> November using Zoom which worked reasonably well but less fun than the usual one with mulled wine and mince pies! At the AGM we noted thanks to Paul Barrell for cutting the short grass areas used for games and footpaths, and to Allan Parken for cutting long grass areas and trimming hedges. Some grass is deliberately left long through winter to help overwintering moths and other insects.

There are vacancies on the committee and anyone interested in becoming a Trustee is welcome to get in touch, or if you prefer to just help with work parties there will be some coming up provided regulations permit. If you would like to add your name to the list of people normally circulated with details please get in touch. They are generally also announced on Waldringfielders. The jobs to do list varies from clearing excessive brambles, cutting back gorse, keeping footpaths and entrances clear and scything long grass areas.

Many thanks to those who keep their dogs on leads as this reduces wildlife disturbance and also difficulties with control and fouling.

Badgers and rabbits evidently use the field a lot but nobody has reported any evidence of hedgehogs. Badgers have dug out a couple of wasp nests. Birds of prey such as kestrels and buzzards are often seen but this year there seemed to be less skylark song and also less swallows and house martins. If people do see anything interesting please report it to Peter Maddison who keeps track of wildlife sightings throughout the village, or to me, Christine Fisher Kay on 736384.



*Misty Autumn morning at Church Field*

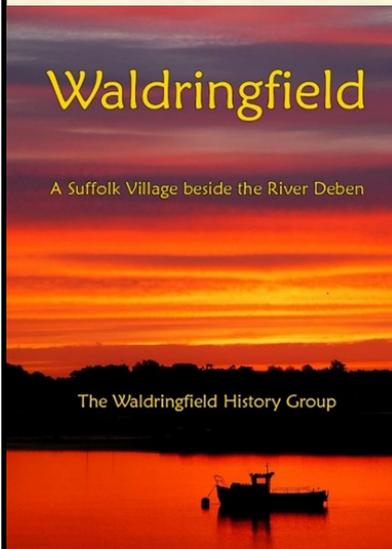
During the winter hopefully people will continue to enjoy the field, weather permitting. Kite flying on windy days is always fun. The top end of the field is a great place to see the sky and perhaps have a look at the stars and planets as you can see all round you without obstructions. If it snows I always have a look for the footprints of wild animals such as deer and foxes but you have to be quick as so many human ones appear very quickly. Also sadly the snow never seems to last long these days.

*Christine Fisher Kay  
Chair of the Trustees*



### Waldringfield – a Suffolk Village beside the River Deben

Many thanks to everyone who has supported our book which we launched in September. Sales went so well we ordered a second print run and we have been told they make excellent Christmas presents! It is currently out of stock on the webstore although a 3rd print run has been ordered. It is available from other stockists (see webstore [waldringfieldhistorygroup.fws.store](http://waldringfieldhistorygroup.fws.store)) or ring Gareth Thomas on 01473 811745 for details.



*'The peace of this place [...] is like a breath of heaven after London,' wrote actor Dirk Bogarde, visiting Waldringfield soon after the end of WW2. He loved 'the damp smells of mud and October mist', the sky 'raked by hundreds of empty masts', the heron 'wading his solitary way across the marshes'.*

*Waldringfield is not always so calm. The anchorage can be a mass of sails when the Sailing Club is racing and the foreshore is often thronged with holiday makers and crabbers. It has been a place for yacht designers and boat builders to display their art and the starting point for innumerable sailing adventures. In the weeks before D-Day Waldringfield contributed to the Operation Quicksilver deception. In the previous century, it was a minor industrial centre supporting a waterborne trade in coprolite and 'London Muck' - together with an environmentally unfriendly but economically important Cement Works.*

Assiduous research by the Waldringfield History Group and their friends tells the village story through family recollections and hundreds of photographs. These range from pioneering glass slides to the latest in drone technology. Meet the boats and people, businesses and pleasures, innovations and escapes of this unique Suffolk community beside the River Deben.

A Golden Duck Publication ~~RRP £29.50~~ – Reduced to £25.00

210x 297mm 314pp, full colour throughout – ISBN 978 1899262434 29.9.2020

### Meetings

We are currently holding meetings on the second Thursday of each month in the Village Hall at 5pm depending on Covid restrictions. We are also delighted that Jo Masters, great granddaughter of Sir Clifford Copland Paterson (a familiar name to those of you who have read our book) should be coming to talk to our Group, hopefully in January. Jo and her husband Paul own a gaff-rigged cutter called 'Clytie' commissioned by Sir Clifford in 1922. Jo will be revealing the entertaining and often amusing comments in the Clytie logbooks so beautifully written and recorded by her great grandparents who sailed her on the Deben. Due to current covid-19 restrictions, numbers for this meeting will be limited to members and a few guests only. If you would like to register your interest in attending Jo's talk, please contact the Secretary for further information on mobile 07989778673 or email [waldringfieldhg@gmail.com](mailto:waldringfieldhg@gmail.com) or alternatively telephone 736251.

*Alison Videlo, Chair of Waldringfield History Group*



## Village Hall Trust Lottery

Some of you will know that the Lottery has continued since the original pandemic lockdown back in March. The monthly draws continued despite there being no Coffee Mornings. I am indebted to the team of collectors who contacted all but everyone in the village when the new lottery year began on 1<sup>st</sup> July. The result of their efforts, despite the lockdown etc, has achieved sales of the same number of tickets as last lottery year – excellent! Thank you everyone for your support enabling a valuable contribution to the Village Hall funds at this difficult time.

There is the issue of making the monthly draw results available to all to be resolved. I shall be using the new Waldringfielders email group through Google Groups to post the results. If anyone would like to have a personal mail, please get in touch – preferably by email then I have your address!

Finally, it's never too late to join in or add an extra number...just contact me!

### Monthly Prize List

First Prize	£ 46.00
Second Prize	£ 36.00
Third Prize	£ 25.00
Fourth Prize	£ 14.00
Fifth Prize	£ 10.00
Monthly Draw	£1 per ticket

*Nigel King, Promoter*

[nking@btinternet.com](mailto:nking@btinternet.com)

01473 736060

07703 569364

## Waldringfield Neighbourhood Watch

The Waldringfield Neighbourhood Watch scheme used to have its own dedicated Yahoo group for communicating information to its members. However, with the demise of Yahoo groups, this will be changing. As from 15<sup>th</sup> December all relevant notifications will now be sent out via the new Waldringfielders googlegroup at [waldringfielders@googlegroups.com](mailto:waldringfielders@googlegroups.com). This will hopefully avoid the need for too many groups and keep all the relevant information in one place.



There are two ways to join this group:

**For technically savvy Waldringfielders**, simply go to the following web address, and follow the instructions online <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/waldringfielders/join>. If you run into problems, let the administrator of the email group know.

**For non-technically minded Waldringfielders**, send an email to [nigel@nigelshore.com](mailto:nigel@nigelshore.com) stating that you'd like to join the new Waldringfielders email group and he'll be in touch with you.

The Neighbourhood Watch group still has a page on the Waldringfield website <http://waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/our-village/neighbourhood-watch/> where you can find lots of information about security advice, more information about different targeted schemes and who to contact for more information.

You can still send information to the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator by email and this address is not changing for now. It is [waldringfieldnw@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:waldringfieldnw@yahoo.co.uk)

*Alyson Videlo*



## Greener Waldringfield

Please join Greener Waldringfield to help with the Climate and Ecological Emergency!



In February Greener Waldringfield had its most successful event yet, the Sustainability Day with Repair Café – relevant, practical, attended by a good range of old and young, villagers and sympathisers from afield, inspiring and fun. We planned the following month to have an open meeting to put Greener Waldringfield, which has since 2010 worked on an ad-hoc basis, on a formal footing.

But then came Covid... So, after the delay:

**You are now warmly invited to a Zoom meeting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm to adopt a constitution, elect a working group and enable the setting up of a bank account.**

**<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76322655127?pwd=Mnk2bUZLZTkR0RVVazhXbDRxeVpzdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 763 2265 5127**

**Passcode: UCt7Ex**

With these in place, GW can go forward with greater continuity, accountability and transparency. We can start planning for regular Repair Cafés, for instance.

In the meantime, the Parish Council has declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency. Many parishes have already done so. Martlesham, for instance, has already had several meetings of its Climate Committee and Rendlesham has even got a plan, which you can see on their website.

The Parish Council has only limited power and money but it is important that we use the democratic institutions we have – the PC can apply for grants, exert pressure and give formal backing and perhaps this kind of activity will help local government retrieve some of the power that has been so eroded by the centralising tendencies of both major political parties over the last thirty years.

Greener Waldringfield can play an important role in both organising feet on the ground and hands to the pump, as well as being a place to talk about the issues.

[www.greenerwaldringfield.org](http://www.greenerwaldringfield.org) contains a digest of relevant and on-going initiatives in the village so far. *Managing the website is a task that urgently needs a new volunteer! Asap!*

For what our neighbour Martlesham is doing see <https://www.martleshammonthly.com/current-issue>



In 2019 Greener Waldringfield compiled a Directory of what's available in Waldringfield: copies went to all households. You can find the **Waldringfield Directory** – due to be up-dated soon – on the Greener Waldringfield website. [www.greenerwaldringfield.org](http://www.greenerwaldringfield.org)

## Free the Trees

The Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB encourages volunteers to contact landowners to help them remove redundant and often degrading tree guards. Some of us are well into clearing the guards pictured. If you know of places to work, try to get landowner co-operation and get in touch with Betsy Reid. For the record (the AONB particularly would be interested to know) please try to keep a rough tally (interesting from the point of view of plastic 'saved' from contaminating the general environment) of guards.

Jill Winter

Betsy Reid (Plastic Action Champion for East Suffolk's Greenprint Forum)



*How the tree guards break up and degrade*

The Rubbish Walk from the Heath Crossroads up to the roundabout generated, of course, much more than the other two roads into the village – this stash (just one of three collected by a dozen volunteers on 16<sup>th</sup> October) contained a rotating sofa, a sheet, a facecloth and enough red and white plastic straws for quite a party, along with countless drinks containers – estimated to be about 90% of national roadside rubbish by City to Sea!



*Why knit? Why not prove our Scattered Orchard trees can bear fruit even in the winter? See the map on page 6.*

## Waldringfield Sailing Club

As I write, we are in lockdown again. The club has been 'put to bed' for the winter at short notice, and the sailors who could collect their boats. Not everyone managed to do that so November's high tides saw remaining boats being moved to higher ground to prevent their floating away.

Now that Covid restrictions will ease again, hardier souls than I will take advantage of sailing during the winter months, in line with Government regulations. The club itself will not be holding races until March, as in a normal year, although the behind-the-scenes winter tasks such as maintenance, membership and duty rotas continue as usual. Hopeful that social restrictions will be lifted further in due course, we have planned a full programme for next year, including events on and off the water to celebrate the club's centenary. Look out for more details in the Spring!

The club gave a big thank you to Anthony Mason at the AGM, for stepping into the breach as Commodore this past year. He's done a great job. He is standing down now so Peter Mills becomes Commodore, Anne Spalding becomes Vice Commodore and Richard Atkins the new Rear Commodore.

*Anne Spalding*

*Photos courtesy of Alexis Smith*



*Waldringfield Sailing Club afloat on 17th October*



*Water water everywhere...*



*Somewhere over the rainbow – a beautiful image captured by Charlie Bland.*

## News from Waldringfield Parish Council



You may have noticed that there is a lovely new bench at the bus stop in Cliff Road. This was made possible by grants provided to the Parish Council from East Suffolk Councillors Richard Kerry and Melissa Allen, and Suffolk County Councillor Patricia O'Brien, so many thanks to them. We're sure you'll agree that it's much of an improvement on its sagging, lichen-covered predecessor!

The Parish Council is also grateful to have received a kind donation from the owners of Swans Nest, towards a piece of new play equipment for the playing field. This wonderful contribution kickstarts a fund that the council is looking to increase, so many thanks.

The playing field also requires ongoing maintenance. You may have noticed that a new set of parallel bars has been installed. This equipment was replaced under warranty, however, the Parish Council paid for some new, robust safety surfacing underneath – the ground was getting worn away beneath the old bars. Due to a problem with cats using the sandpit as a litter tray (and therefore concerns about health and ongoing cleansing requirements), the sandpit has been filled in. Further works will be required to other equipment in the playing field, including the replacement of wooden posts which have rotted over time. However, work is dependent on funding. The Parish Council has provisionally budgeted some money from the precept, but councillors are mindful to minimise any increase. CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money may also be used and other grants and fundraising investigated.



After an advertising exercise, to draw villagers' attention to the waning number of councillors on Waldringfield Parish Council, we were pleased to receive a number of expressions of interest. A full complement of councillors is now in place (9 members), with the following residents having been co-opted and welcomed on to the council: Sue Quick, Paul Beaumont and Joanne Doyle.

Many of you will know that local resident Frances Matheson was an integral part of the Parish Council for many years – an incredible 40 years in fact! Councillors – and we're sure villagers – would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to Frances for her dedicated service.

For other news items, the Parish Clerk regularly updates the News area of the village website: <http://waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/news/> She also uses the Waldringfielders Google Groups email to forward information. See joining details on page 11.

*Ian Kay, Chair of Waldringfield Parish Council*

## WALDRINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

### Your Parish Councillors:

Ian Kay (Chair)	Janet Elliot (Vice Chair)	Serena Gold
Colin Reid	Colin Archer	Sue Quick
Chris Lyon	Paul Beaumont	Joanne Doyle

### *To contact the Clerk:*

Rebecca Todd  
5 St George's Terrace, Church Road,  
Felixstowe IP11 9ND  
Telephone: 01394 271551  
E-mail: [pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com](mailto:pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com)

### Meeting Dates for 2021

12th January  
9th February  
9th March  
13th April (Annual Parish Meeting)  
11th May  
8th June  
13th July  
10th August  
14th September  
12th October  
9th November  
14th December

***The Parish Council hopes to return to having meetings in the Village Hall as soon as possible, but until then, meetings will be conducted on Zoom—joining details are published with the agenda or can be obtained from the Clerk.***



**A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THE VILLAGERS WHO DELIVER THIS NEWSLETTER—YOUR HELP IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!**