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Fete 2019
Programme
Inside

Issue No.82 Summer 2019
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The theme for this issue of Memories of School Summer Holidays didn't bring back a great deal of interesting memories for me. A week or two away was usually out of the question as my parents ran their own business. (No sob sob story here though as we did very well at Easter and Christmas thank you!).

I did go looking for old photos and found a few, but the thing that struck me was that although many of our summer holiday days were spent outdoors on daily adventures with friends, I don't have a single photo of any of them or of the places we used to play. What a difference from today when we can all take as many images as we want and share them with whomever we like.

Oh, and every day of the school summer holiday was wall to wall sunshine!

In this issue we have the Grand Fete Programme. I'm sure we would all like to thank the Fete Team (this year with a few new faces) for bringing the show to us once again, the 8th since they were restarted after a long break.

From the Gossip Team we wish everybody a wonderful summer, whether you are taking the trip of a lifetime or staying firmly anchored at home.

"We're all going on a summer holiday, no more working for a week or two....", probably launching our epic journey at 32 minutes past the hour on the 16th July.

Watlington Gossip Grants

The Gossip has funds available for grants to local groups to help towards the purchase of specific items. (We do not contribute towards running costs.) Our grants are usually in the range £200 -£300. All we ask is an article about your group as a follow-up. Contact any member of the Gossip Team for further information.

The Watlington Community Magazine is compiled by volunteers from the village and relies upon advertisers for its continued funding. The committee does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy or otherwise of any article or advertisement appearing in the pages of the Gossip, nor does it necessarily agree with any of the viewpoints expressed by our contributors in articles or other items published in these pages.

Guidance Notes for Contributors

Please keep your articles to around 500 words (1/2 page) or 1000 words (full page). This will be reduced by about 125 words if a photograph or drawing is to be included. Please send photographs and advertisements in *jpg* format. Sorry, we do not accept 'advertising features' or insert adverts.

Kaleidoscope

When I think of summers long past, so many things I see
Sounds, visions, all held fast, the kaleidoscope of memory

Twist - I'm walking with Grandad-his memory doesn't fade
Then he buys me Tayto crisps and ooh-red lemonade

Twist - I'm swimming in the sea, cold and clear and rough
Having fun with my dear Dad-Mum didn't like that stuff!

Twist - I'm picking fruit with Gran, sun shining on my head
waiting for the jam she made, still hot upon the bread.

Twist - I'm at the seaside staying in a caravan
Fish and chips and candyfloss, and the ice-cream man

Twist - I'm dancing with my friend in the amusement bar
I still have a photograph-from then we've both gone far

Twist - I'm playing Bingo at a place called Jaywick Sands
The regulars fill the cards so fast; they must have had three hands!

Twist - I'm painting in the garden while Mum does the flowers
Strawberries and orange squash, precious shared hours.

Twist - I'm riding in a Dalek at the summer fete
Now they look so shabby, back then it was just great.

If I shook up my kaleidoscope, more pictures I could find
Days long gone, still cherished in the storeroom of my mind.

Elaine Carpenter

Landslide Victory in Watlington Ward

Watlington has a new Borough Councillor. Local shop owner Jim Bhondi, who stood as an Independent candidate, polled 570 votes, defeating incumbent Peter Hodson (Cons,122 votes) and Guy Jarvis (UKIP, 64 votes). Mr Bhondi secured 75% of the votes.

The Conservatives retained control of the Borough Council, but their majority was reduced to one.

No Computer? Pop your article or letter into the Gossip box in the Post Office or post it in the letter box outside the Parish Council Office.

Front Cover

The Gossip Team

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Deadline for the Next Issue

The deadline for **Issue 83** of the Gossip is
1st August for publication by 1st September 2019

Local Plan Shock for Village

The Local Plan review sets out the policies the Borough Council will use to determine planning applications. It will also identify sites for housing, employment and other land uses through site allocations and where development should be located and how it should be delivered up to 2036. **The Plan will take account of completed Neighbourhood Plans.**

The current Plan document was a draft for consultation; another version will be prepared for further consultation, currently anticipated to take place towards the end of the year/early next year.

Watlington and Marham have been identified as Growth Key Rural Service Centres as they are 'closely related to overall Growth Strategy in close proximity to the A10 / Main rail line Growth Corridor, as they not only provide a range of services and facilities for the local population and wider rural areas, but been identified as being capable of accommodating a higher level of growth than previously.'

The plan envisages a growth of at least 115 houses in a green area of Watlington. The proposals brought a deluge of vigorous objections from local residents and at a packed meeting in April, the Parish Council agreed a strongly worded objection to the site selection. You will need to read the full Parish Council Minutes and look at the Borough Council website for the strength and feeling of objections raised by local residents and the Parish Council.

Watlington Gossip

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Street Names (3)

Firstly I must make an amendment to the article in the last Gossip concerning Dr Horace Thomas, after whom Thomas Close was named. Dr Hugh Lacey phoned me to correct the premise that Dr Thomas had been instrumental in giving the village the Thieves Bridge Road Surgery (forerunner of the current Medical Centre). Hugh and Jean Lacey moved into their home in Downham Road in 1960 when Dr Thomas retired and continued to run the surgery from there until 1981 when they purchased the Thieves Bridge Road property as the new surgery.



Many apologies to Dr Hugh and Dr Jean Lacey for the misleading information. In actual fact the original article from the Spring 1999 Gossip was corrected in the next edition which unfortunately I had not yet discovered.

Lacey Close (off St Peter's Road) was named after the doctors, for whom there was a great deal of respect and affection. A suitable celebration and official naming ceremony took place at the time.



One of the more recent streets to be named is that of Old Chapel Close (off Downham Road), the entrance to which is where the chapel in the photo is situated.

BJL

Teddy Bear's Picnic Wednesday 31st July, 10am-1pm Watlington Village Hall



Free entry

Picnic, drinks and lollies will be available to buy
Children of all ages welcome – all children must be
accompanied by an adult

Don't forget your teddy bear!

Watlington Preschool is a registered charity, no. 1133641

Village News and Views

Thank You

How can you say thank you to all the wonderful people who have helped in small ways to make my life better after I lost my soulmate Ron on the 7th February, after what seemed to be a long time but in actual time was only 4 months.

We came here 3rd February 2015. I was brought up in a village in Yorkshire but Ron was from Fulham so found the way of life totally different. But he really loved living here, the lovely people he met who always had time to say "Hello" or "Good Morning".

I joined the WI and we both joined the Wednesday Club and everyone was so friendly and made us feel so welcome. We went to the Rainbow Café and he always enjoyed a sausage roll.

The Big Breakfast was something else to enjoy for both of us, and not forgetting the Dining Club.

So, to all the many ladies and gentlemen too numerous to mention by name, but you know who you are. I say a huge THANK YOU to you all for all the help through Ron's illness and the help given to me since his passing.

To all the newcomers and the ones on your own come and join in the clubs in the Village Hall you won't be disappointed, cos you can only meet people who will become new friends.

I joined the Knit & Natter Group, so if you knit or just want a natter come and join us. You will find all the details in the Gossip.

Thank you once again

Mrs Pat Miller



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Watlington Village Hall

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If you have experience of accounts or bookkeeping (running the household budget for example) and can commit to a few hours a week why not come and join our committee in helping to run this much used community facility.

As Treasurer, you will also be a Trustee of the Village Hall, and have a say in the general management of the hall.

**For further information please contact our secretary,
Vicky at vling@hotmail.co.uk**

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The Parish Council currently has four vacancies for Parish Councillors to bring the Council up to their allocated number of eleven.

If you are interested or would like further information please contact the Parish Clerk.

Contact details are on page 34.

Open Meeting

The WI meeting on Tuesday 9th July, 7.30pm will be open to everyone, including non-members and gentlemen.



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News from the Medical Centre

Spring brings many changes and some of you may be aware of some changes in personnel at the Medical Centre. Dr Fletcher has taken on a different role nearer her home town so that she can spend more time with her children, we will miss her and wish her all the very best. Bryony is taking up a Nurse Practitioner post in one of the larger King's Lynn practices which will be a busy but rewarding job; again we wish her well with her new venture. We have new faces in our Admin department and also in Reception and a new Nurse Practitioner will be joining the team soon.

We are very lucky to have Dr Kate Nichol joining us at the beginning of June. She has been working locally for several years so knows how everything works in this region and we know she will be a great member of the team.

We expect to replace the remaining "missing" doctors' sessions over the next few months so the wait for routine appointments should improve soon. Thank you for bearing with us; it is a very difficult time for the NHS with shortages of doctors in many disciplines and we have had to change the way we work in order to ensure that people who have a medical need to be seen urgently at Watlington can receive appropriate appointments or be pointed in the right direction.

With this in mind please be reassured that when our reception staff request information about the concern you are ringing about that this information is absolutely confidential within the Medical Centre and allows the GP dealing with urgent issues on that day to give you the right appointment or advice.

If you are planning overseas holidays this year then please ask in Reception for a holiday form to complete so that we can advise you in good time whether you need any vaccinations, some of these need several months to take effect so don't leave it too late!

Have fun and remember the sun cream!

Dr S Buckland

Medical Centre Opening Hours

Monday	08.30 - 13.00	14.00 - 18.30
Tuesdays	08.30 - Noon	
Wednesday	08.30 - 13.00	14.00 - 18.30
Thursday	08.30 - 13.00	14.00 - 18.30
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You should use the NHS 111 service if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation.



when it's less urgent than 999

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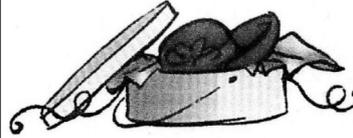
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“Growing and Learning Together”

School Holidays

School holidays – those endless days when the sun shone and it didn't rain. (Well, not in 2018 or in 1976!)

There is something about the school holidays; no getting up in the morning, no school, uninterrupted days playing in the sun or biking with your friends and no pressure! And most children would cheer – “no learning!”, but unfortunately many children suffer something called the “Summer Slide”. This isn't a plastic one in the garden, but instead, it represents the learning loss that can be repeated annually – and is recorded the world over – when pupils experience their long summer holiday. Clearly that time is a golden opportunity to reconnect with family and friends, to play, to travel, and to rest – but it does offer up rich opportunities to learn along the way, too.

Without such learning experiences, there is the real potential that what has been learnt in the previous school year will be partially lost. But it is so easy to stop this, without resorting to daily lessons and really expensive visits.

Summer holidays are such an opportunity to get outside and get off those screens. The National Trust runs an amazing programme of “50 things to do before you are 11¾”, most of these don't cost any money but can easily be done in the garden or in your local surroundings.

Things like stargazing, find out what constellations can be seen from your back garden or even how about learning to geocache? Geocaching is an activity or pastime in which an item, or a container holding a number of items, is hidden at a particular location for GPS users to find by means of coordinates posted on the Internet. Did you know there are over 2300 geocaches around Downham Market?

Another way to stop the slide is just by ensuring you read a little bit every day. Many people will remember their summer holidays lying on a rug in the garden getting some sunshine and reading all day long. But what to read? That's where the Summer Reading Challenge comes in. The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the school holidays. You can sign up at your local library, then read six library books of your choice to complete the Challenge. There are exclusive rewards to collect along the way, and it's FREE to take part! The Summer Reading Challenge website helps you keep track of your reading all year round: find new books to read, take part in competitions and mini challenges, and play games. This year's challenge is entitled “Space Chase” and is inspired by the 50th anniversary of the Moon Landing.

There are lots of things to do in those long summer days, but whatever the children do, encourage them to get outside, play and enjoy themselves. Make the most of the summer weather and take a break from the tablet or

screen. Of course the children want to use their technology, but try something new and it won't feel like learning at all!

Ruth McGlone
Headteacher

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Watlington Church News

Watlington Church has just had its annual meeting when a new Parochial Church Council was elected. Two Churchwardens were also elected, John Murfitt and Barbara Church. The Parochial Church Council is the equivalent of the Committee of the Church. The people who are entitled to elect the Council are the members of the electoral roll, we have 28 people on the electoral roll. The financial accounts for the year were received at the annual meeting and we need help! Those 28 people are keeping our Parish Church going, this is our normal congregation on a Sunday, more people come along for big festivals like Christmas and Easter and other significant occasions such as Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Our Church needs about £400 a week to pay all the bills, heating, lighting, maintenance of the organ, roof alarm, sound system, church yard, insurance etc and a contribution towards our new priest in charge which gives a round figure of £20,000 a year. That is just to stand still, nothing for additional needs like repairs.

Many people in the village visit the Churchyard to tend graves or to pop in for a quiet time. Our Church is probably the oldest building we have; it has stood for generations, serving everyone in the village. Most people I think, would not like to see it crumble to dust.

So, what are we going to do?

Fundraising like fetes and coffee mornings brings in about £3,000, hard work carried out by 28 largely retired people, we don't feel we have the energy to do more. Our collections at services, standing orders and gift aid brings in about £7,500. There is a shortfall of £10,000! Unlike some Churches, Watlington Church has no historical resources.

We are asking the people living in Watlington to help us! We are used to paying for things by Direct Debit and we are asking people to support the Village Church, maybe £5 per week (£5 buys a coffee and a nice piece of cake at a coffee shop, or half a pint and a packet of crisps!) or £10 per month, these are just some suggestions. What about legacies?

There will be a Gift Day at the Church on 22nd June 10am to 3pm when our churchwardens and PCC members will be pleased to show you round the church and hopefully people will sign up to help us. Then we will also be visiting people in their homes to ask for support, this will not be easy for us to do, so please don't slam the door in our faces or shout at us - we will be trembling in our boots anyway!

*Barbara Church and John Murfitt
Churchwardens on behalf of Watlington PCC*

Church Event Dates for your Diary

Now that David is with us as our Priest in Charge there is now a regular Rota of services in our group or cluster of Churches, please come and join us. June 30th (5th Sunday of the month) is especially special being the Patronal Festival of Watlington Church dedicated to Saint Peter and Saint Paul.

First Sunday of the Month 9.30am at Runcton Holme with Reverend Dr. David; **Second Sunday** of the Month 11am at Watlington with Reverend Dr. David; **Third Sunday** of Month 9.30am at Wormegay with Reverend Dr. David; **Fourth Sunday** of Month 11am at Tottenhill (sometimes lay-led Morning Prayer).

Dear Reader

After four years, we have finally left the city and moved to rural Norfolk. We have now been here for nearly five months. What a change! And how pleasant too!

The warmth of the Norfolk welcome has been overwhelming. I am often asked, 'How are you settling in?' or 'How do you like it here?' Some of the people behind these questions are simply curious, others are concerned to know more about our work and wellbeing. Whatever the conversation, I always answer in the positive. And how can I not?

Yes, the amenities and conveniences of the city are enviable. The professional opportunities are many and varied, and the intellectual atmosphere can often be stimulating and engaging. Still, I have to confess that I do not miss the relentless pace of city life or the over-busyness of ministering in a city church. Norfolk's clean air is delightful, its wildlife interesting and its simplicity of life attractive. Now I have time to admire the beauty all around me and often pause to feel the wind blowing on my face, gaze at every sunrise and sunset, follow every cloud in the sky and admire every flower that blooms and every leaf that fades. Is it not amazing to recognise the order, artistry, creativity, power and wisdom behind all of nature?

Of course, my fascination with nature and its mystery is not new or unique. An ancient poet, mesmerised by this same beauty and mystery, wrote thus:

"The heav'ns God's glory do declare,
the skies his hand-works teach:

Day utters speech to day, and night

to night does knowledge teach" - Psalm 19:1-2

Affectionately yours,

David, Priest-in-Charge

St Peter and St Paul Church, Watlington

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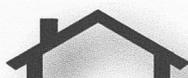
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Watlington Players

Twelfth Night

Performance dates: 24th - 26th October 2019

Reading dates: 11th June, 14th June, 16th June

Directed by Ian Gooda, Assistant Directed by Kevin Rooney, Musical Direction by Amy Power

In Shakespeare's funniest comedy, Twin siblings (Viola and Sebastian) are shipwrecked off the coast of Illyria with each presuming the other is drowned. Viola disguises herself as a young man (aka Cesario), to gain employment with the Duke of Illyria (Orsino), however, she soon falls in love with the charming Duke.

Oblivious to Viola's true identity (or feelings), Orsino sends Cesario/Viola as his envoy to try and woo the beautiful countess Olivia on his behalf. However, the countess rebuffs the advances by Orsino, but falls in love with the young messenger (Cesario/Viola) instead.

Elsewhere in Olivia's household, her drunken Uncle (Sir Toby Belch) is living the high life off the finances of the pathetic Sir Andrew Aguecheek, who is also trying to win the affections of Olivia. Moreover, Olivia's steward, the puritan Malvolio, has hidden romantic intentions towards his mistress. However, it is not until he angers Toby; Andrew; the gentlewoman, Maria; and Olivia's fool, Feste; that a dastardly plot is created to force Malvolio to express his misguided feelings.

All of the above confusion and complication is further exasperated once Viola's twin, Sebastian arrives in Illyria, a perfect duplicate of Viola's disguise of Cesario, blissfully unaware of how his reactions to communications meant for Cesario are further complicating life in the Illyrian court.

There is a musical element to the show but will not be central to any audition process.

Disenchanted

A B-Company production of musical comedy Disenchanted will take place 30th - 31st August, 8pm. The team, led by Amy and Megan, hope to find some princesses to join them in this exciting show, so please contact Megan at chairman@watlingtonplayers.com if you would like to get involved. As it is a B-Company, rehearsals will not take place in the hall and it will be a much more informal process.

Poisoned apples. Glass slippers. Who needs 'em?! Not Snow White and her posse of disenchanted princesses in the hilarious hit musical that's anything but Grimm. Forget the princesses you think you know – the original storybook heroines have come to life to set the record straight.

Enjoy hilarious songs such as 'All I Want to Do is Eat', 'A Happy Tune' and 'Once Upon a Time' as the disgruntled princesses tell you what it's truly like to be represented by Disney. We hope you will all come along and join in the fun!

Due to some language and innuendo, this is recommended for those aged 16+.

www.watlingtonplayers.com

www.facebook.com/watlingtonplayers

chairman@watlingtonplayers.com

Watlington Young Players

Since the last edition of the Gossip we have been busy rehearsing for our production of Aladdin. (See below for details). We also donated £45 to Comic Relief as a result of members being 'fined' for wearing red noses or some other Comic Relief item to the session.

5 of our members are appearing in South Pacific with the Watlington Players from 29th May to 1st June. Please come along and support them. There is a matinee on Saturday 1st June at 2.30 as well as the usual 7.30 evening performances. Tickets can be booked on the Watlington Players website (see below).

Tickets are on sale now for Aladdin – go to the Watlington Players website and look for Box Office. You can book on line or leave a phone message.



**Disney
Aladdin Jr.**

Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics by Howard Ashman, Tim Rice and Chad Beguelin
Book by Chad Beguelin. Based on the Disney film written by Ron Clements, John Musker, Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio and directed and produced by John Musker

Presented by

Watlington Young Players

Directed by Andy Prior; Assisted by Allan Lord

Musical Director Mike Cooke

Choreographers Jane Wallace and Jane Pearce.

WATLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 13TH JULY AT 7.30

SUNDAY 14TH JULY AT 2.30

ALL TICKETS £6

Your Parish Council News

19th February 2019

- ◆ A street light across the railway line was damaged following a road traffic accident on 18th February. The Council's insurers were contacted.
- ◆ Council heard a speaker on the possible introduction of CCTV at the village hall site, which would be considered at the April meeting.
- ◆ The clerk advised council members on the upcoming Parish Council elections on 2nd May, when the whole Council was up for election.
- ◆ Watlington would be appearing in the Explore West Norfolk website and mobile apps from March 2019. Councillors read through the information and corrections made.
- ◆ The Borough Council has advised that an Alcohol Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) could only apply to towns. It was agreed to add alcohol restrictions to the Byelaws.
- ◆ The floodlights on the MUGA are now operational, although there was still some difficulty setting the timers correctly. A smart meter will be installed by E-On. Quotations for trellis fencing were being sought to restore the gap in the hedge between the Village Hall car park and Recreation Ground. PlayInnovation has repaired the tarmac by the snooker table.
- ◆ Cllr Golding reported that she had donated fabric to a local craft group last year and informed them that any money raised from the sale of it should be donated to the MUGA fund. £50 was raised. Cllr Golding, was given a vote of thanks for this gesture.
- ◆ Fenland Leisure would be giving a quotation to repair the surface area on the Warren Close Play Area.
- ◆ The new notice board in Fairfield Lane had arrived and would be erected soon. The Council approved the purchase of 2 new 6 ft posts for the installation, the cost not to exceed £12.
- ◆ The Youth Football Club Child Welfare Officer, had contacted the council to advise that a recent Under 15's match on the Glebe field, the football pitch had been covered in dog waste and there were large holes on the pitch from dogs digging. The managers of the team had to clear the dog mess and fill the holes. The Council felt that dog walkers could not be banned from walking their dogs on the field and that the Football Club should erect their own signage.
- ◆ Concern was raised that dog walkers were hanging their dog bags along the path of the River Ouse. The Environment Agency would be contacted to investigate whether they would consider putting a dog bin along the bank or at the entrance to the car park area.
- ◆ 'No dog waste' stickers are now on appropriate litter bins. Bin usages would be monitored over the coming weeks to see if the stickers are effective.

- ◆ Council agreed to investigate a request from a parishioner in Cecil Close for a back plate to be fitted to a street light outside a bedroom.
- ◆ The SAM2 sign has been moved to a new site in the village. Data was still to be collected.
- ◆ Council approved a request for the use of the Recreation Ground and Glebe Land for the Village Fete and the suspension of the Control of Dogs Order for the duration of the event. The Council agreed to have a stall at the fete and that a small working party would meet to organise this.
- ◆ New arrangements were agreed for dealing with breaches of terms and conditions of use of allotments, which would lead to eviction if said breaches were not rectified.
- ◆ The Council agreed to ask MP Elizabeth Truss to apply pressure on Network Rail to agree the completion of the trod link with Magdalen.
- ◆ Council noted the public meeting on 10 January regarding parking near the station. An assessment of various options put forward was being made by Norfolk County Council and these would be reported back at a further public meeting. *(Covered in the Spring Gossip)*
- ◆ A planning application has been received for the erection of 9 dwellings, cart lodges, B1 units, bin and cycle storage and car parking spaces adjacent to the station carpark. Council approved this with comments on considering the inclusion of a small coffee shop and to seek an upgrade of the Gypsy Lane road surface.
- ◆ Council objected to a two storey extension at 82 Downham Road as being out of character with existing bungalows in the area

9th April 2019

- ◆ The Council objected to the Borough Council Local Plan (*See page 4*), which proposed at least 115 new dwellings in a green area of the village. Objections included loss of wildlife habitat, poor highways infrastructure in the area, impact on surrounding residential properties and that other sites in the village would have far less environmental impact. (See the full PC minutes for the Council's written response and comments from the 75 members of the public attending the meeting.)
- ◆ The Council pledged to support CPRE Norfolk in its campaign aimed at ensuring that no new sites are allocated for house building in revised local plans to 2029 or 2036 until existing allocations in current core strategies have been developed.
- ◆ Only seven candidates had stood for election to the Council on 2nd May, so there would not be a contested Election.
- ◆ Watlington Players were granted permission to place a storage container, metal and painted green at a size no larger than 40ft x 6ft, along the west side of the Village Hall for the storage of props and costumes subject to approval

Your Parish Council News

from the Ely Diocese, and that the Council would accept no responsibility or liability for the container when in place.

- ◆ The Council agreed the purchases a wet pour topcoat kit for the Warren Close Play Area from Fenland Leisure at a cost of £75.00 +VAT and a new swing seat for the Recreation Ground as emergency expenses.
- ◆ The King's Lynn Rapid Relief Team confirmed that they could provide a dog bin to the Parish Council free of charge to help with the dog waste issue along the Relief Channel fence, upon which people were hanging their used dog bags. Permission for the installation of the dog bin in the adjacent car park was being sought from the Environment Agency (EA),
- ◆ The Village Hall Committee had contracted a cleaning company on a three-month trial to manage the hall cleaning programme.
- ◆ All allotments are occupied, with four people currently on the waiting list.
- ◆ On their next visit, the Community Payback Team would be working on the Recreation Ground, filling the sand pit with soil, cleaning the Tots area and trimming the hedge.
- ◆ Highways have confirmed the anticipated completion of the trod to Magdalen would be this summer.
- ◆ The Parish Partnership Scheme with the County Council has approved two schemes - a trod John Davis Way to Paige Close at a total scheme cost of £2,950 split 50/50 (£1,475 each) and School Keep Clear zig zags at a total scheme cost of £120 split 50/50 (£60 each).
- ◆ The preferred scheme of Norfolk County Council to control parking on John Davis Way would be double yellow lines on the corners of the junctions, although restricted parking might be considered if the costs were not excessive. Permit parking had been dismissed outright by them. The Parking Network Strategy team was currently investigating the two favoured schemes.
- ◆ The Council agree the purchase of a back plate a cost of £75+ VAT for street lamp 9066, Cecil Close.
- ◆ The Council agreed the purchase of a CCTV system from Shield Security Systems at a cost of £1,327 + VAT for security surveillance of the MUGA.
- ◆ The Grounds Maintenance Contract was awarded to CGM for a three year term commencing 1st April 2019 until 28th February 2022 at a cost of £7,980+ VAT.

The Council meeting on 7th May will be reported in the next issue.

Future Meetings of the Parish Council

18th June 7pm	Committee Room Village Hall
30th July 7pm	Jubilee Hall Village Hall
3rd September 7pm	Jubilee Hall Village Hall

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www.wnklgirlsschoolstrust.org.uk

email: office@wnklgirlsschoolstrust.org.uk

◆ *Interested in following up on any of the Council news items?*

- ◆ Full minutes and agenda of Parish Council meetings are available at the website:
<http://watlington.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>
- ◆ All local planning applications and decisions can be viewed at west-norfolk.gov.uk, follow the links.
- ◆ The Parish Council Office at the Village Hall is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 11am to 1pm. (Please call 01553 810777 to confirm that the office is open.)

Full contact details for the Parish Council are on page 34.

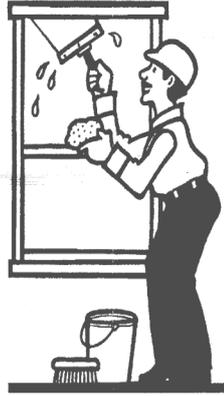
NO Allotment Vacancies

There are **no** plots available to rent on the allotment sites at the time of going to press. However, please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like to be on the waiting list.

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Watlington Grand Village Fete

**Saturday 15th
June 2019**

**11.00am to
4.30pm**

**Recreation Ground
Main Village Hall
Sports & Social Club**

Programme of Events

(Information correct at time of going to print)

- 11.00am Official opening of the Fete by the David Karoon,
Priest in Charge West Norfolk Priory Group**
- 11.05am Refreshments available in the main Village Hall**
- 11.05am Performance in the Arena by Watlington Young Players**
- 11.05am Registration for the Tug of War opens in the Marquee**
- 11.15am Sports in the Arena**
- 11.30am Punch and Judy show in the Marquee**
- Noon Sports and Social Club Opens**
- Noon Live Music on the Recreation Ground**
- 12.30pm Performance in the Arena by Watlington Players**
- 1.00pm Fen Song in the Main Village Hall**
- 1.00pm Sports commence in the Arena**
- 1.30pm Dog Show registration takes place**
- 2.00pm The School of Dance**
- 2.15pm Tug of War - Ladies**
- 2.30pm Dog Show judging commences**
- 2.30pm Punch and Judy show in the Marquee**
- 3.45pm Tug of War Tournament - Men**
- 4.15pm Announcement of Winners of Competitions**

Evening Events at the Angel

There will be music provided by Tom Hingley

(the lead singer of the 90s band Inspiral Carpets)

The Grand Draw will take place at 9.00pm

Welcome to the 2019 Watlington Grand Village Fete. Now in its 8th year the Fete has become an established popular event on the Village calendar and we hope you will find this one equally enjoyable. Again this year we have some traditional fairground attractions to add more variety to the day. Also, we are continuing with the success of last year by using the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on the Recreation Ground, with sports related activities for all ages and abilities.

Dog Show

Once again judged by staff from Mill House Veterinary Surgery, King's Lynn. The entry fee is £1 and Rosettes will be awarded to the first 3 in each of the categories, which are:

1. Best Senior Dog or Bitch (over 7 years)
2. Best Rescue Dog or Bitch
3. Best Cross Breed Dog or Bitch
4. Best Pedigree Dog or Bitch
5. Prettiest Bitch
6. Most Handsome Dog
7. Best Junior Handler (under 12 years)

Registration opens at 1.30pm in the arena.

Sports

Penalty Shoot Out at the Downham Market Advertiser Stall, in aid of the Junior Football Club.
Games in the Multi User Games Area and sports in the arena.

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

There will be various skill competitions on the MUGA throughout the day – come along and try your skills.

Tug of War Tournament

To make the competition more exciting, there will be a male and female team from the Angel and the Sports & Social Club. Now is the time to get your teams together!

Registration at the marquee during the day. Entry fee is £1 per person. 8 to a team.

All competitors must wear suitable footwear (no spikes or high heels)

First Aid

Generously provided by Norfolk Event Medical Services Ltd at no cost to the Fete.

Entertainment

There will be performances from The School of Dance and Watlington Young Players and Watlington Players in the arena and Fen Song in the Village Hall.

The Fete favourite ROLLO with his Punch & Judy show will be back for two sessions.

Car Boot Sale

£5 per pitch. Setting up from 9.30am.

Contact the Chairman Antony Culy antony_culy@hotmail.com to book

Stalls and Games

There will be a wide range of stalls and games for all ages and tastes to keep you entertained and refreshed throughout the day. These include a BBQ, Ice creams, various games, penalty shootout, face painting, tombolos, craft stalls and the ever popular PIMMS stall.

Also Grays Funfair Rides, including inflatables, cup and saucer ride and hook a duck.

Anyone still wanting a stall or game at the Fete please contact Antony Culy antony_culy@hotmail.com

Main Village Hall

In the Village Hall there will be a display of work by the Children of Watlington Primary School and Watlington Pre-School together with memorabilia by the Millennium Green Trust. Grand Prize Draw tickets will also be on sale and some musical entertainment by Fen Song.

Refreshments

Come and sit down and relax in the Village Hall and be served with delicious tea, coffee and cakes by the WI.

The Sports and Social Club will also be open from 12 noon.

Grand Draw at the Angel

We have again received some fabulous prizes. 1st prize family photographic portrait by Light of Grace Photography, 2nd prize family tickets to Snettisham Park and 3rd prize a wine hamper, plus many more exciting prizes. We are very grateful to all those who have donated prizes and details of these and the donors and winners will appear on the village website. Grand Prize tickets are on sale now through various outlets in the village and will be available at the Fete. The draw will take place at 9.00pm.

Thank you

A big thank you to all who have helped in any way to support the fete – including the Village Fete Working Group, the Gossip, the Village Hall, the Parish Council, the Sports and Social Club, the King's Lynn Sea Cadets, Mill House Veterinary Surgery, the Angel Public House and Restaurant, Clanpress and the most generous sponsors of the Grand Draw.

Any proceeds from this year's fete will be divided between the Pre-School (for outside play equipment), the Parish Council (upkeep of the MUGA), Village Hall (maintenance) and the Millennium Green (maintenance).

Car Parking

The King's Lynn Sea Cadets will be marshalling the parking, so please follow their instructions and park sensibly!

Litter

Please deposit litter in the bins provided or take it home (to recycle). It makes cleaning up so much easier. Thank you.

Sponsors of the Grand Draw (at the time of going to print)

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Event Medical Services Ltd Imagine Spa

Landymore's Farm Shop Light of Grace Photography Morrisons, King's Lynn

Norfolk Lavender Planet Zoom Snettisham Park Strikes

Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens

Watlington WI

The WI programme for 2019 has planned many interesting speakers and activities, and we are always looking for interesting workshops to try. Regular updates can be found on the website:

www.watlingtonnorfolk.co.uk - Women's Institute.

Why not check us out or ring Marion on 01553 810407 for more info and come along and see what we do.



Watlington Knitters & Stitchers

Would you like to knit one of these cheery chaps, they are called Trauma Teds, the hospitals and police are always glad of them to give to children when they are distressed, they are a good way to use up small amounts of wool. This photo shows how well, the teddy's are received, it was a thank you from the Norfolk Constabulary to say how they help traumatised children.



The pattern can be found on the Norfolk Knitting and Stitching website, or I can give copies. There are plenty of ideas on the website showing things that are needed .

Our group meet at 16 Warren Close, on the third Monday in the month, 2 until 4pm, everyone welcome!

Come and enjoy chatter and a cuppa, while we knit and exchange ideas.

Janet Jones 01553 810868

Watlington Craft Group

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday morning of each month in the Jubilee Hall (9.30am till Noon) to pursue our various crafty interests. Please feel free to come along and meet with like-minded folk, learn and share tips etc or just knit and natter, sew or stick, whatever you like.

£3 per session (for room hire)

Ring Sheila on 01553 810575 for more information.



Church Fund Events

Church Fete 8th June 2-4.30pm
at 53 Downham Road Watlington.

Barbeque Evening Saturday 6th July
at the Village Hall.

Watch notice boards for further information.

Watlington Sports & Social Club



Watlington Sports and Social Club is situated opposite the village hall and is a family members club with lots to offer for all age ranges.

We offer good quality drink, food and snacks at affordable prices. We are signed up to both Sky and BT TV, which enables us to show all the big games on the large screens throughout the club. The club has 2 pool tables, dart board, juke box and puts on numerous events throughout the year for adults, children and families.

The Social Club is home to Watlington Men's Football Team, 5 Youth Football Teams (ranging from U7's through to U15's), Green Bowls Teams and Crib League.

We welcome new members and the annual fees are very competitive, £10 for a single membership and £15 for couples/families. Please feel free to pop in, have a look around and a chat with our friendly bar staff.

Upcoming Events

If you would like more information on any of the events listed please pop in or give us a call. More events will be added so watch the Entertainments Board / Facebook Page / Posters in the village for updates.

Magdalen Church Bells Sound for Notre Dame

Following the devastating fire at the Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris, the Archbishops of Canterbury & York and Prime Minister Teresa May asked for bells at churches and cathedrals across the UK to ring out in solidarity when possible on Thursday 18th April (Maundy Thursday).

The bell ringers of Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene Church joined by ringers from Watlington and Leverington rang rounds, Plain Hunts, Bob Minimus and call changes on Maundy Thursday in accordance with the request.

The ringing team was Liz Roads, Val MacRae, John Anderson, Russell Chitty, Mick Bywater and Tony Downing.

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Watlington Preschool

Summer term at preschool is so, so busy and we have been enjoying all aspects of it. Playing outside in the sunshine, loving being messy in our mud kitchen and having fun with water play and ball games. We love being able to take activities and resources outside which adds to their play value enormously.

We have been looking after vegetables that we planted and watching out for butterflies and minibeasts in our wildflower patch. We've been practising ready for our sports day and we will have been out on our summer trip (being planned at time of going to press).

We have had great year for fundraising spearheaded by our amazing committee led by Tracey, our Chairperson. We have enjoyed our first children's bingo event which was great fun, our yard sale was a great success as always and the children took part in a Smartie Box challenge which raised over £350 towards resources and our trip. We also supported a charity called Crackerjacks, which do brilliant work with disabled children and donated £100 to them, raised from our Easter Morning.



Making friendships is a big part of preschool life and we have over the last few months been making some extra special friendships with the residents of High Haven Care Home in

Downham Market.

Once a month some of the staff, along with parents, have been taking a small group of our children and sometimes their siblings to socialise and interact with the residents. This has been a fantastic success. The children have been sharing games, songs and creative activities with the residents and everyone involved has said how much they have enjoyed it. Well done and thank you to all of those who have taken part.

We cannot believe we are nearly at the end of another school year at Preschool. We have a large group of children this year who are leaving us to begin the next part of their journey, in reception class. It is so sad to see them go, but we feel we have done our job preparing them for school and are so very proud of each and every one of them.

Thank you to everyone, as always for your continued support for Watlington Preschool. Have a wonderful summer!

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Watlington Preschool is a registered charity: 1133641

Six Weeks

We rushed away from school at the sound
of that last bell

Six weeks of freedom-who could tell

What delights this time would bring

Before September's first bell ring.

Those six weeks seemed to last so long

Listening to a favourite song

On Radio 1, in the sunshine

Each day a gem that was just mine.

But what we didn't understand

Was that time had us in its hand

Those six weeks marked our passing youth

And it is surely still the truth

Six times six weeks from boys to men

From girls to women, never again

Would life be so carefree and new

So full of promise, skies so blue.

So, let the young enjoy their turn

So many things they'll have to learn

To six weeks off, I still aspire-

Suppose I'll just have to retire!

Elaine Carpenter



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CHILDHOOD REFLECTIONS

Julie Newman

As children we were excited by the simplest things: a new pad of drawing paper or colouring book and a set of colour pencils, playing out on our bikes or roller skates or roaming around the woods with our friends, Famous Five style. We girls practiced our skipping or hula hoop techniques (not the crisp variety) or entertained ourselves with hop-scotch but I was forbidden to chalk on the pavement outside our house!

School summer holidays seemed to stretch into infinity. Six whole weeks to do whatever we liked! Much of the time was spent in each other's houses and gardens, making our own fun, dressing up and performing plays or simply telling a story.

My mum was good at finding places to take us for a day out, my favourites being Regents Park Zoo and Battersea Funfair. Mum would get us up early and announce that we were going out for the day, having already prepared a packed lunch. Part of the fun was the train journey and I used to count the station stops until we reached Charing Cross. From there I remember taking a black cab to our destinations.

Battersea Funfair was a huge outdoor complex which was originally part of the Great Exhibition of 1951. Brightly coloured striped tents lined the approach road where we paid at the turnstiles to take advantage of the many rides including the water chute, scenic railway and the crooked house but my favourite thing to do was the tree walk – a wooden walkway high up in the trees. It was like another world up there. We would stay all day at the fair and eat our lunch in the outdoor dining area. Fortunately the weather was warm and sunny on most occasions.

Regents Park Zoo was a great place to see the animals we could never have experienced in the wild. But thinking back, the poor elephants, bears and pandas were kept in enclosures far too small for them and the big cat house contained the lions and tigers, one to a cage, something that would never happen in Britain today. My brother and sister, both younger than me, liked the children's corner with baby animals the best. There were llama cart rides too, and I have an image of us sitting in one of these carts dressed in raincoats and hats. On this occasion we sat at wet picnic tables to eat our lunch of hard boiled eggs and bread and butter, chocolate cupcakes with thick icing, a flask of tea for Mum and me and a bottle of diluted squash for my brother and sister.

More recently my husband and I took our daughter to Regents Park Zoo and I'm pleased to report that there was a big improvement with much larger animal enclosures. Battersea Funfair closed down long ago which is a shame. These days our summer entertainment consists of National Trust properties and open gardens with afternoon tea but I still look back on my childhood summer holidays with affection.





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Lashings of School Summer Holidays!

Maps, torches, packets of sandwiches and no end of ginger-beer ... Julian, Dick, Anne, their tomboy cousin George (Georgina by rights) and Timmy the dog like nothing better than to spend their holidays hiking and biking, camping and exploring by themselves, invariably falling into adventure!

Now, the Famous Five are among Enid Blyton's best-loved creations and generations have gone adventuring with them since the publication of *Five on a Treasure Island* in 1942. This the first of twenty-one full-length adventures and numerous short stories spanning twenty years. Famous by name, famous by nature, the 'Famous Five' books are infinitely popular! During the summer hols, the 'quintet' find themselves obliged to solve a mystery which usually, but not always, has a criminal behind it. The locations of the adventures vary from book to book but many are set on the privately owned "Kirrin Island", inhabited by their Uncle Quentin and Aunt Fanny (no sniggering, please!). At other times, the children may go camping or hiking or be sent on holiday elsewhere. An innocent bygone era where an appreciation of nature, absent of iPods and Bluetooth speakers was adequate to occupy youthful minds! Those of us who have the privilege of raising teenagers in the twenty-first century cannot possibly imagine packing them off for the long summer break with a mere packet of biscuits and bottle of ginger beer. My goodness, I mean, they'd need to ... *talk* to each other, using words rather than text-slang or emojis!



Enid Mary Blyton was born in 1897 in East Dulwich, South London. Shortly after her birth her parents moved to Beckenham in Kent and it was there that Enid Blyton spent her childhood. Eventually, despite her parents' wishes for her to become a musician, she decided to qualify as a teacher. Not surprisingly, she took Froebel training (named after the German educator, Friedrich Froebel) whose philosophy held that children construct their understanding of the world through direct experience with it – predominantly outdoors. Surely this experience must have inspired her to create the 'Famous Five'! Blyton's books were controversial amongst literary critics; for a considerable period, certain libraries would refuse to stock the books – despite strong demand from children themselves. They have also been criticised for racist, sexist and xenophobic stereotypes. This said, in recent years, the series has been given a 'revamp' and a new (politically correct) lease of life. Indeed, following a few 'Famous Five barren decades' most schools are now recommended to include a selection of Blyton's books in their libraries!

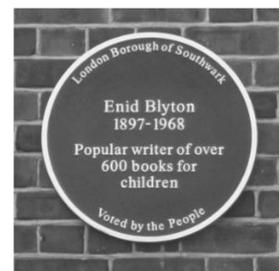


The children looked out for it as they drove along the coast. Then Julian gave a shout. 'There it is - that must be Kirrin Bay'... Anne was staring out over the blue bay. At the entrance to it lay a curious rocky island with what looked like an old ruined castle on the top of it.

Five on a Treasure Island, Enid Blyton, 1942

Some years ago, my wife and I holidayed on the South coast where it was common knowledge that 'Kirren Castle' is actually Corfe Castle in Dorset. Now owned by the National Trust (not George's parents) it's nevertheless still atmospheric. 'Kirren Bay' is in fact the beautiful Lulworth Cove, close to Swanage. This little spot with its pebble beach, cerulean sea and fishing smacks could easily pass for a Mediterranean island. It's little wonder it gave Blyton inspiration for her stories!

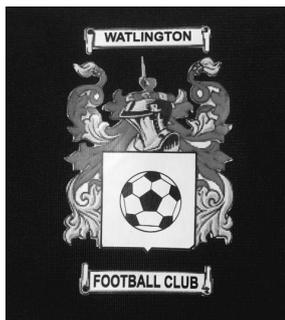
Enid Blyton died in 1968 but her books full of exciting adventures live on. In a survey carried out by *YouGov*® in 2011, The 'Famous Five' came top in a list of children's favourites (which, incidentally included the likes of Roald Dahl and JK Rowling), with '*Five on a Treasure Island*' rated best book in the series. Apart from the antiquated language synonymous with Blyton's style (which can sometimes be a bit irritating) it's really quite entertaining – in an idyllic, simplistic sort of way!



Just like Julian, Dick, Anne, George (and Timmy) we all rather look forward to a jolly decent summer holiday with a mountain of mother's shortbread biscuits and lashings of beer (the ginger kind, of course – gosh! what *were* you thinking?).

Andy Prior

Watlington Football Club



We are coming to the end of another season with only a few friendlies and tournaments to complete. The start was a difficult one but with great support we have enjoyed a good season with the arrival of a new team and players. We have managed to grow the club and fulfil our aim which is to allow players and parents to enjoy and encourage and coaches to teach the game of football.

We have our presentation night on the 11th May where everyone gets involved during the day with plenty of fun and enjoyment, this then moves in to the village hall where the players receive their team and individual trophies. This concludes the season and will allow the coaches, players and parents to relax and prepare for the following season.

I was really pleased to see an **Under 7's** team emerge this season and only in a short space of time you can see the enjoyment and eagerness to learn is there for all to see. It has been difficult at times especially at the start with only having 4-5 players, but they have gained more and are starting to develop in to a team unit.

The **Under 11's** have had a very good season after going up a division they finished 4th amongst a good group of sides and managed to reach a Cup Final which unfortunately they lost but the learning curve they will gain from this will be invaluable. They continue to develop as a team and when it goes competitive next season this will stand them in good stead I am sure.

The **Under 12's Greens** have had a difficult season in their first year in competitive football. Though it has been a tough season the players and coaches have kept going and this is great credit to them; this is where you need the support of everyone to pull together to support the players and coaches. They finished strongly with a better team spirit and found themselves starting to compete as they rallied together.

The **Under 12's Yellows** have found it hard going this year and though they have been on the end of a few defeats they also won a game in their first season of competitive football and the players reaction was a joy. The players and coaches have continued to commit, and it will continue to be a learning curve going forward for all.

The **Under 15's** have had an up and down season. The start was difficult a struggle to fulfil a full team weekly but with team spirit and commitment from players and parents the side managed to gain several new players. This gave the manager a squad and for the first time in a long while he had a full side to take to games. The new members have pushed the squad forward and they started to put in a run of wins and the commitment from players has changed. The side finished well and have enjoyed the later part of the season. Next year will be their final season in youth football and I hope they all return and are able to finish with confidence.

The Men have had a season with highs and lows they have continued to struggle with player numbers and this causes a very unsettled side and difficult to become a team. Hopefully next year we can get some consistency and with the possibility of a reserve side this will allow us to gain more numbers and look to the future with confidence.

Though the season has nearly completed the hard work now starts for the committee trying to arrange affiliation and numbers of teams to place in to leagues and to see what coaches and players are returning for the following season. Also a recruitment drive for coaches, looking for sponsors and fundraising ideas enabling us just to run.

If there are any kind-hearted people or anyone who knows a company(s) who would like to sponsor in some way towards the club or teams this could include Match balls, kit etc. please contact Nathan.

It has been a season of highs and lows with the different sides having their individual issues but as a club we have been committed to making it a great playing experience and we will continue to push on as one club. The way forward is for us to continue to improve in all areas and with all the committee, parents, players and coaches if we all work together we can continue to improve this great club which I am very proud to be chairman of. I will continue to do my best and with the help of the committee I am sure this will happen.

We are always on the lookout for players. We are also looking for coaches to join the club we have a team but need a coach or two, so if you want to join this friendly club please contact Nathan McDonald below.

Hope you all have a great summer.
nathanmcdonald36@aol.com

Norwich City FC

Congratulations to the Canaries on winning the Championship and flying into the Premiership.
Good Luck for the new season!

Watlington Wednesday Club

Watlington Wednesday Club welcomes all to its meetings in the Village Hall, held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 2pm. This year we celebrate our 25th Anniversary, at the time of writing a Celebratory Tea Party is planned for the 8th May with entertainment provided by the Fenland Ukulele Group. It feels incredible that we have been meeting for 25 years and the Ukulele group will be amazing too, I think.

We have had an increase in membership this year although our membership was tinged with sadness too as two lovely members or past members died, Ron Miller and Wilf Harris. Lots of good memories shared and our love and support go to Pat and Shirley.

There have been some very interesting talks in the late winter and Spring. Bryan Howling presented his talk on the Bentinck Family and we also enjoyed Historical Crimes of Downham Market and Kings Lynn researched by one of the volunteers from True's Yard. More recently two people from Driving Miss Daisy told us about the extremely flexible, friendly transport and companion service that they provide which can be so reassuring when extended family and friends are not available or live a long way away.

Our programme for the summer months looks like this, including some of our traditional annual events, I think we can say that now after 25 years!

June 12th 2pm Reverend Dr. David our new priest talking about his life.

June 16th 2pm Strawberry Tea at 32 Fen Road

July 10th 2pm History of Sandringham House with Susan Barnett

July 24th 1.45pm Croquet at Stow Hall with Jonathan Toye

August 14th 2pm Barbecue at home of Richard and Pat Aisthorpe

August 28th 2pm Games or Petanque

We do welcome visitors if a meeting is of interest, charge is only £2!

Barbara Church

Vice chairman Watlington Wednesday Club

Considering advertising in the Gossip?

Over 1200 copies of the Gossip are distributed in Watlington four times a year and a digital version is available on the Watlington website
www.watlingtonnorfolk.co.uk.

For further information contact Brenda Leedell
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The Treaty of Versailles 1919

Signed on the 28th June 1919, the fifth anniversary of the assassination of Duke Franz Ferdinand heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire which started the war, the Treaty of Versailles ended the war between Germany and the Central powers with the Allies, or Triple Entente, including France, Great Britain and her dominions, America, Italy and Japan. Russia was not included as it had signed a separate treaty.

The Armistice of November 1918 only stopped the fighting. Most of the negotiations took place in Paris between the leaders of the Allies. The demands of the Treaty placed great demands on Germany. Billions of Marks, 132 billion worth £284 billion today, in reparation especially to France, which had suffered huge losses to industry being damaged or sabotaged. Great Britain was included but the war debt taken on by the Allies to fight the war was also in the billions.

Germany would have to give up huge areas of land gained in the war. This is about 25,000 square miles in Europe and all its overseas colonies mainly in Africa, Togoland, Cameroon and German East Africa. These would come under control of the League of Nations or shared between Britain and France. Germany would have to recognize Czechoslovakia as a nation and grant land to Poland allowing it sea access. Germany was also prohibited from merging with Austria.

The German armed forces would be greatly diminished in men and equipment especially its Navy. Britain wanted to remain the supreme Naval power. The French wanted to occupy the Rhineland to stop any future aggression from Germany. Great Britain's Prime Minister Lloyd George persuaded the French that this was unnecessary as Britain would agree to come to France's aid if this occurred.

The American President, Woodrow Wilson, and Lloyd George thought these penalties were too harsh. Germany was in chaos with unrest and revolution everywhere and they wanted it to be a sustainable country. The French would not back down, and the Germans refused to sign the Treaty until threatened with immediate invasion.

Although this treaty ended the state of war, many countries especially Germany, would negotiate other agreements to try and ensure peace. Unfortunately, repercussions from this Treaty led to instability in Germany, the rise of the Nazi Party and the a further war.

KL

A Long Wait to See Loved Ones

After returning home from the moon, the Apollo 11 astronauts were quarantined for 21 days in the 'MFQ' (Mobile Quarantine Facility), aka a trailer!

So far, just 12 people have walked on the moon.

Community Noticeboard

Jim's Monthly Collection Box

The monies collected in the charity box on the counter in the Watlington Post Office Store are donated to local charities. This quarter all funds have gone to Runcton Holme and Watlington Scout and Guide groups

February 2019 £72 MUGA Project

March 2019 £60 Watlington Youth Football Club

April 2019 £77.50 Millennium Green Trust

Thanks to all the customers who contributed.

Thanks to Jim and Ann and to June for her assistance.

Benefits and Advice Team

Did you know that it is thought that there are many families that are not claiming what they are entitled to, including over a million low income pensioners?

Many people find the benefits system complex, scary or just don't know what questions to ask. Your local Benefits Advice Team are only one free telephone call away.

The Benefits Advice and Review Team are a small team of visiting officers from King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council. Primarily we are there to help deal with Housing and Council Tax Benefit queries.

We also offer independent advice on whether you or your family may be entitled to state benefits – whether you are sick, retired, disabled or caring for someone. Signposting people where necessary.

We are available to help people complete the following forms:

- Housing and Council Tax Benefit – means tested benefit
- Discretionary Housing Payment
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- Disability Living Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Carers Allowance

You can contact us directly via our freephone Welfare Benefits Hotline on 0800 731 2253. Telephone queries are dealt with between 8.45am - 5.15pm Monday to Thursday and 8.45am - 4.45pm on Friday's

Alternatively you can email us at any time to request a visit or ask for advice revenuesvisitingteam@west-norfolk.gov.uk.

We will answer your queries as soon as possible.

Watlington Community Information Point (CIP)

Located at the Parish Council Office
Watlington Village Hall 01553 810777

Opening Times: **Tues & Thurs 10am to 2.30pm**

If you need help to use the computer please telephone in advance to make sure someone is available to help you.

Phone 01553 810777 when the office is open.

You can bring your own device and use the free wifi.

Links to the Borough Council website to access the full range services available.

Long Green Indoor Bowls Group

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Contact the Editor at watgossipeditor@gmail.com if you would like your organisation to appear on this page.

Watlington Village Hall 200 Club

Each number costs you £1 per month (£12 a year) and is entered into a draw each month which takes place on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall at approximately 8pm.

1st Prize £40, followed by runner up prizes of £15, £10 and two of £5. Every 4th month the 1st prize is £100.

You have to be in it to win it!

Recent winners are listed below:

February 2019 Draw Winners:

1st prize -	200	Mrs A Stevenson	£40
2nd prize -	157	Mr G Fisher	£15
3rd prize -	186	Mrs S Grief	£10
4th prize -	057	Mrs L Beeby	£5
5th prize -	178	Ms A King	£5

March 2019 Draw Winners:

1st Prize -	30	Mrs A Revell	£40
2nd Prize -	199	Mrs P Miller	£15
3rd Prize -	168	Mrs K Carpenter	£10
4th Prize -	101	Mrs C Lomas	£5
5th Prize -	050	Mrs B Leedell	£5

April 2019 Draw Winners:

1st Prize -	132	Mrs P Miller	£100
2nd Prize -	166	Mrs Barlow	£15
3rd Prize -	111	Mrs A Butrum	£10
4th Prize -	087	Mrs J Smith	£5
5th Prize -	028	Mrs S Porter	£5

The profits from the draw all go to the Village Hall and will help to fund several ongoing refurbishment projects.

Please Support YOUR Village Hall

There are still numbers available. To snap one up please contact Vicky on vling@hotmail.co.uk or pop into the Parish Council Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays and see Sara (Parish Clerk) tel: 01553 810777

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Contact: Bob Keens (01553 810855 / b.keens@hotmail.com)

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Scouts (10.5 - 14 year olds) Tuesdays 7 - 9pm

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Brownies. 6-7.15pm Thursdays. Contact: Brown Owl (Mandy Randle; 01366 388554 / mark.randle@tesco.net).

Guides. Runcton Holme Scout Hut 7.30-9pm Thursdays. Contact: Guide Leader (Sarah Mack; 01366 501942 / sarahjmack@hotmail.co.uk).

All meetings at Runcton Holme Scout Hut next to the school in Runcton Holme.

Bike for Brian

The King's Lynn Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association is holding a sponsored family friendly bike ride on: **Sunday 28th July, 10.30 – 1.00 pm**

An 8 mile sponsored bike ride, starting from **The Angel in Watlington** following a pretty flat, family friendly, circular route on quiet roads via Magdalen, Stow Bridge and Runcton Holme. The entry fee of £5.00 includes an MNDA T-shirt and a barbecue with a hot dog or a burger afterwards. There will also be a raffle with proceeds going to the MNDA.

Registration from 10.00 am, ride begins at 11.00 am.

All ages welcome!

For more information and for sponsorship forms please contact

janelewis321@btinternet.com / 01263 740962

or

janet.walker16@btinternet.com / 01366 328242

The Motor Neurone Disease Association provides care, support and information for people with MND and their carers, as well as funding research into the condition.

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Millennium Green

After the wonderful display of daffodils we were expecting the main event on the green, namely the cowslips, as they have been improving year on year. There was a lot of yellow but mainly dandelions. A real pain in your lawn at home but good for insects in the wild.

I had seen other places where there were whole fields of cowslips. We were getting worried that they been struck down by some mysterious plague. Eventually they started to appear towards the end of April like a teenager from their bed on a Saturday morning. Even so they do not look as impressive as previous years but that's nature for you, there are no guarantees of success.

If you see anything interesting or changes when you cross the green please tell us. Earlier this year the Kings Lynn metal detector group made a sweep and found the usual scrap iron from old agriculture activity, some Victorian coins, some military badges and 303 spent ammunition cases. You can see some of these at the village fete.

Some discarded cans and bottles were also found, but as the bins are usually full we are grateful that most people act responsibly.

Can we also ask that dog walkers put dog waste in the dog bins provided at either end of the green. The other bins are emptied by ourselves or the village litter picker making it very unpleasant if they contain dog waste.

Enjoy the open space as we do but if you can come and help it would keep the green looking good all year round.

Keith Leedell for the Angel Field

'The Castle'

Growing from the rampart

In old decaying wall,

Like medieval works of art,

Where no hand could ever scrawl.

As the broken wall transcends

Below the grassy moss,

The blooms of multi-colours send

Their smell across the fosse.

Small flowers clinging near

Precarious in their plight.

Gasping at the atmosphere

Upon that ruined site.

Wallflowers have their final fling

A ruined castle and a king.

John Reynolds

Mobile Library Timetable

12:10 -12:25	JOHN DAVIS WAY
12:30 -12:45	BRITTON CLOSE
12:50 -13:05	PETERSFIELD
13:10 -13:35	THE ANGEL
14:45 -15:05	WARREN CLOSE
15:10 -15:25	CHESTNUT CLOSE
15:30 -15:45	RECTORY LANE
15:50 -16:05	PLOUGH LANE - OLD QUEENS HEAD
16:10 -16:25	ORCHARD CLOSE
16:30 -16:45	DOWNHAM ROAD

Every 4 weeks

Next dates

13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 5 September

Choose items or reserve via the online catalogue for collection from a mobile library. You can return them to any branch library or mobile library in Norfolk.

Items include:

Fiction books for adults and children (book request 60p)

Non-fiction books for adults and children
(subject requests are free)

Large print books (book request 60p)

DVDs (a small charge)

Audio books on CD and tape (a small charge)

We do not charge for overdue books, although a repeat loan charge may apply for hired items (eg DVDs, games, CDs, and spoken word formats) not returned on the due date. A replacement charge may apply if items are lost or stolen.



Hey guys—where are you going! The road is to the right.
Many thanks to Tim for sharing a holiday photo with us.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Parish Council - Village Hall Office 01553 810777

Clerk: Mrs Sara Porter; The Old School House, High Street, Stoke Ferry, King's Lynn, PE33 9SF 01366 502165 / 07941 105 697 watlingtonparish@hotmail.co.uk

Mr J Bellamy 07771 755233 jabbazxr@gmail.com
Mrs J Golding 01553 811362 jean@goldings.biz (Chairman)
Miss S Sheldon 07824 353555 sarahholmes8019@hotmail.com
Mrs B Leedell 01553 810848 kgbj@dell4277.plus.com
Mr T Palmer 07919 033943 timpalmer73@aol.com
Mr A Prior 01553 810863 ellrprior@gmail.com
Mrs P Sillis 01553 409933 philbdavies@hotmail.com
(4 vacancies)

Borough Council: 01553 616200

Borough Councillor: Jim Bhondi 07817604397

County Council: 0344 800 8020

County Councillor: Brian Long 01945 430169

Elizabeth Truss MP: 01842 766155

elizabeth.truss.mp@parliament.uk

Medical Centre: 01553 810253

Emergency (out of hours) 111

Pharmacy 01553 811045

Health Visitor: 01366 389249

Patients Group: 01553 810201 (Val Dagnall)

Hospital: 01553 613613

Community School: 01553 810468

Preschool: 01553 811035

Under 5s: Contact through Facebook

Village Hall Bookings: 0300 3110234

Watlington Players Box Office: 0845 052 9645

Sports & Social Club: 01553 810171

Churchwarden: John Murfitt 01553 811086

Churchwarden: Barbara Church 01553 810584 or
barbarachurch@phonecoop.coop

Angel Pub & Restaurant 01553 811588 (new)

Post Office Stores: 01553 810263

Rodwell's Fish & Chips: 07943 844133

Watlington Garage: 01553 811748

Police: Non-emergency 101

Gas Emergency: 0800 111 999

Electricity Emergency: 105

Public Road Water Leak: Anglian Water 0800 771 881

Street Light Faults: 0344 800 8008

For links to local websites use our website

www.watlingtonnorfolk.co.uk

Coming Events (At the Village Hall unless stated)

June 2019

01 - Watlington Players *South Pacific* 2.30 / 7.30pm

08 - Church Fete 2pm - 4.30pm 53 Downham Road

11 - WI Birthday Party

15 - Grand Village Fete 11am - 4.30pm

18 - Parish Council 7pm

28 - Rainbow Café 9am till noon

July 2019

06 - Church Barbeque (Evening)

09 - WI Open Meeting: *Whaling in Norfolk* (see Page 5)

13/14 - Young Players *Aladdin Jr* (7.30/2.30)

26 - Rainbow Café 9am till noon

28 - Bike for Brian from 10am Angel Pub

30 - Parish Council 7pm

30 - WI: Birthday Party

31 - Preschool Teddy Bears Picnic 10am - 1pm

August 2019

01 - Gossip 83 deadline

28 - Preschool Kids Craft Morning 09.30 - 11.30am

September 2019

03 - Parish Council 7pm

Church Services on Page 11

Wednesday Club Events Page 29

Email events to watgossipeditor@gmail.com

Regular Club Bookings at the Village Hall

Badminton: Weekly Wednesday Evening 01553 810584

Short Mat Bowls: Weekly Monday Evening &
Friday Afternoon 01553 813400

Under5s: Weekly Wednesday Morning 07731 946668

Wednesday Club: Fortnightly Wednesday Afternoon
01553 810584

WI: Monthly 2nd Tuesday Evening 01553 810407

Watlington Players: Weekly Friday Evenings

Watlington Young Players: Weekly Friday Evening
01553 810732

The local Facebook Directory



We have drawn together a list of local Facebook community sites known to us. Not on the list? Contact us through our Facebook page!

watlington community: issues, news and events

watlington village people - issues and events

watlington gossip; watlington wi

watlington sports & social club

the angel Watlington

watlington grand village fete

The Gossip Photo Gallery



Jim Bhondi—new Borough Councillor



The cast and crew of 'Aladdin' - picture taken by former WYPS member Cameron Lewis



The Millennium Green In Spring



WI Members resting after their walk around Sandringham for charity (ACWW)



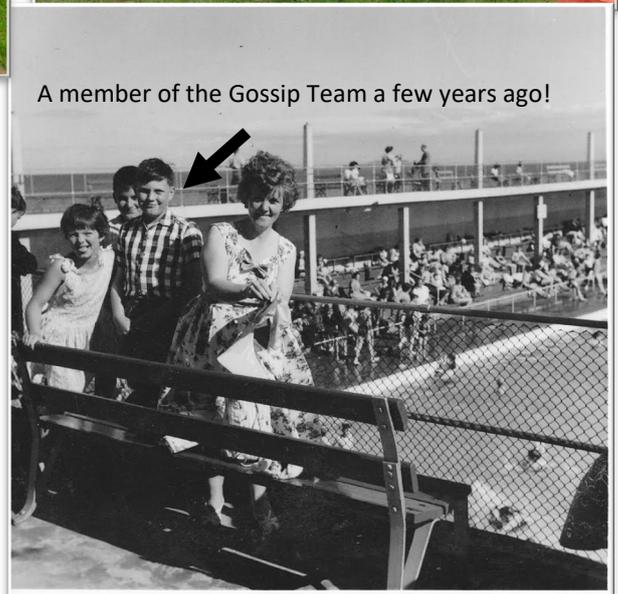
The U11s with their runners up medals from the cup final against Downham U11s



Making music in the Preschool garden



The Editor never did like his photo being taken!



A member of the Gossip Team a few years ago!



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Service Hours

Monday - Friday 08:00 - 17:30 Saturday By Appointment Only
Sunday/Bank Holidays Closed

RAC Approved Dealer

We are an RAC approved dealer, the only one in the Downham Market area.

