



## No.83—Spring 2024



*Photo—Tracy Dickerson, Waldringfield resident*

## **Update on Brightwell Lakes February 2024**

The progress of the build out is clear to see from the Ipswich Road. It's now possible to fully take in the very large (overwhelming) scale of the development and the significant variations in levels of the land.

We are pleased to report that a meeting of the Brightwell Lakes Community Forum was held in December and that an on-site visit is scheduled for March.

There has been a recent application to vary some of the details for the on-site SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace). This related to the smaller area of SANG – the “green” strip into the development starting from the Ipswich Road. The application includes changes in the topography to reduce the depth of the main drainage basin. Residents might have noticed that the entrance area to this part of the site has recently been covered in tarmacadam – this is not to create a new (third) roadway from the Ipswich Road. It is to provide a suitable access for service vehicles to the pumping station alongside the drainage basin – there is no vehicle access beyond that point.

Taylor Wimpey (TW) is now designing the next housing parcel, W6, which will be approximately 85 dwellings. The start date for parcel W1, has been postponed by six months and is now expected to begin in June, due to market conditions. The first of the “affordable homes” will become available during the course of this year.

The details of the school are still to be finalised – this is a matter for the County Council as T W are required to provide the land but do not determine the design or breakdown of the school provision. It is understood that discussions are taking place between SCC and a number of Academies and that it remains unlikely to be a “through school” (all ages on one site). Similarly, discussions with existing GP practises regarding the provision of GP services are still in progress.

There are few details of the allotment provision beyond the broad spatial arrangement in the SANG application but TW are in the process of getting a landscape architect on board to come up with more detailed drawings. Details such as how the plots will be allocated, the variety in sizes, will be part of a community-led management plan.

The provision of wardens and other measures to offset the impact of Brightwell Lakes on off-site wildlife habitats is facilitated via ESC's Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS). Brightwell Lakes is required to pay approximately £300,000 into the RAMS fund.

You will have noticed the large advertising signage on the approach to the site as well as the very distinctive (& permanent looking) signage to the entrance. We have been informed that all of these will be removed when the houses are sold (so in about 20 years!).

Our next update will be in the Summer Parish Newsletter – for more information in the meantime you can visit [www.brightwelllakes.co.uk](http://www.brightwelllakes.co.uk)

**Cllr Janet Elliot**

*(Photos of progress next page in Brightwell Lakes Photo Gallery)*



Brightwell Lakes Photo gallery  
February 2024



*All photos—Ian Kay*



**Waldringfield Sessions** No. **2**  
*presents*



Contemporary Folk Duo  
**Kyson Point**  
on Saturday 18th May 2024  
at Waldringfield Village Hall  
7:00 pm - 10:30 pm



Tickets are £14 and can be purchased from [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk)  
or direct from:

Simon Couchman Tel: 07515 385550 Email: [simoncouchman@hotmail.com](mailto:simoncouchman@hotmail.com)  
or Neville Stein Tel: 07778 005105



Listen to Kyson Point here: <https://davidbooth.bandcamp.com/album/de-mixes>

## Waldringfield Gardeners



Here is our list of events for 2024.

Do get in touch if you have any further suggestions and ideas. The easiest way to do this is to request joining the Waldringfield Gardeners WhatsApp Group or emailing [betsyr@talk21.com](mailto:betsyr@talk21.com). We would like to respond to what YOU would like, so please do get back with any ideas.

### EVENTS

#### **AD HOC Share my Garden - plus plant share / activities**

A relaxed seasonal meet up in someone's garden at fairly short 'AD Hoc' notice to share our expertise and have fun. Perhaps bending metal rods to make plant supports, perhaps making hanging baskets out of apple prunings? First one will be late Feb early March 'Betsy's Bulb meadow'

#### **Garden visit - Green Island Gardens CO7 7SP (near Colchester) on Tuesday 14th May-**

[www.greenislandgardens.co.uk/](http://www.greenislandgardens.co.uk/) Leave here 11am - shared transport and picnic lunch, they do have a café - which we will use for coffee and cake. Leave to return at 3pm. Cost £9.00 each. It's about an hour's drive.

**Open Gardens on Sunday 9th June 2- 5.30pm** - could you open your garden? Or might you be free to help with teas, parking or selling tickets? It's a very popular event! Last year it attracted approx 250 people and benefits St Elizabeth Hospice, a great cause. We also have Morris Dancers to help make the day a truly special village event - do join in with us if you can.

#### **Produce Show - Saturday August 10th**

Get growing! This event had a record turn out last year, the village hall was bursting with pride and people! The produce, auctioned off at the end was absolutely delicious!!

#### **Pumpkin Parade - October**

A regular event for children & Adults celebrating Halloween and the River with ghostly story telling entertainment.

**Xmas wreath making workshop** - Saturday 30th November @ the Village Hall

### INVITATIONS TO GET INVOLVED

Practical work around the village. WG has taken over the Triangle and planted it up - any additions to this or times when you could offer some help looking after this would be great.

There are some other areas, that don't conflict with the Village Verges, that we have our eyes on - and doing them together will be so much more fun.



*Photo from  
our visit to  
Rivers Hall  
last year*

*Photo Tracy  
Dickerson*



## INVASIVE SPECIES

The NNSS (Non native Species Secretariat, part of Defra) day this year falls in May.

Far too late if we want to keep on top of Alexanders which encroaches year on year and blankets early flowering smaller species. Now is the time to tackle it - the ground is soft and the deep-rooted plants small enough to come out easily.

This is something a small number of us have done over the years.

Might you like to be involved?

**We are offering all these opportunities to all paid up members of WG, but also to those on the WhatsApp group - the more the merrier!**

## REGULAR LOCAL TALKS

**Kirton and Falkenham Garden Club**, secretary Jenny Bearcroft, meetings on Thursdays at Kirton Village Hall 7.30 <https://www.kirton-suffolk.info/gardeners-club/>

**Woodbridge Gardening Club.** [janthia.mcintyre@me.com](mailto:janthia.mcintyre@me.com), meetings in Woodbridge Quay Street Church Tuesdays 7.30 [www.woodbridgehs.org.uk/](http://www.woodbridgehs.org.uk/)

**Woodbridge Horticultural Society meetings** Mondays 7.45pm Woodbridge Pool and Memorial Centre [www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com/](http://www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com/)

[www.sustainableplantstore.com/pages/talks](http://www.sustainableplantstore.com/pages/talks)



**Betsy Reid, Sec on behalf of the Waldringfield Gardeners committee**

## **Warm Room / Warm Welcome**

This season's weekly Warm Room/Warm Welcome sessions have got off to a flying start and continue to be very popular.



We are open each week up to & including March 13<sup>th</sup> on

**Wednesday afternoons 2pm - 4.30pm in the Kennedy Room.**

Thanks to the generosity of East Suffolk District Council and our great team of volunteer hosts

**There is no charge and everyone is invited!!!**

Good company, lots of chat, plus tea, coffee, biscuits & cake. Wi fi access, board games, information on local support providers. Explore the shelves of the village book exchange and take away as many as wish.

For more information contact:  
[janet.elliott@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.elliott@btinternet.com)



# Waldringfield Sailing Club

Established 1921

Organised sailing resumes at the Club on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, after the winter break. Over the closed period there have been various maintenance projects undertaken by some of our dedicated volunteers, involving the Clubhouse and support boats, as well as weekend working parties in February and March for as many members who are able to attend.



*photo —Alexis Smith*

Many members will have been looking after their own craft over the closed period, although some continue to race throughout the winter at nearby locations such as Alton Water, or as far afield as Buenos Aires for the ILCA6 (formerly Laser Radial) World Championships.



*Photo—Alexis Smith*

The first major event of the season will be the Easter Egg Open Meeting, held this year on Good Friday and Easter Saturday – we expect several visitors, as well as members, for this event. This year Wednesday evening racing resumes on 17<sup>th</sup> April and the Regatta Weekend is scheduled for 12 – 14 July.

On Saturday 13 April the Club is holding its annual RNLI Day, when a race is held for all classes and the winner awarded an RNLI pennant. We are anticipating a visit from the local Inshore Lifeboat based at Harwich, subject to operational requirements. The lifeboat pop up shop will be at the Clubhouse, and all villagers will be welcome to come and lend their support.

As ever, if anyone wishes to know more about the Club do come for a chat on a Saturday or Wednesday when we are sailing, or look at the Club website [www.waldringfieldsc.com](http://www.waldringfieldsc.com).

**William Sudell**  
**Club President**



*Photo—Alexis Smith*



# Greener Waldringfield

Great things are happening for 2024!

As of February this year it is now a statutory requirement for all councils in England to make provision to mitigate biodiversity loss. Greener Waldringfield has a part to play in making that happen in our village.

For many years Waldringfield has a reputation for great practices and projects that actively conserve, regenerate and improve our very special area of outstanding natural beauty by the river Deben and we intend to continue that work with your help.

Further to the successful Green Infrastructure event that Greener Waldringfield hosted at the Village Hall last August, our local network of Parish Councils (Brightwell, Newbourne, Hemley, Martlesham and Waldringfield) are working as an Inter-parish Group to work on our Biodiversity policies so we can connect up and generate ideas between us.



A forum of stakeholders, who share our goals and have an interest, will join us to identify what we most value, come up with a strategy, then a plan for implementation. Please let us know if you would like to join, especially if you have experience, skills or just interested!

Further, we are about to launch a new website and Social Media platforms. Launch will be announced via Waldringfielders. It will have a new look and be easier to navigate. We will have a new Instagram and WhatsApp group so it's easy to keep informed.

We are happy to have appointed an interim Treasurer who will be co-opted at the AGM

## Dates for the diary and events

**Greener Waldringfield Meetings** every 4th Thursday of the month

**Deben Climate Centre Winter Talks**, at Woodbridge Methodist Church, 7pm every Friday through until end of March: [www.debenclimate.org](http://www.debenclimate.org)

### February

- 14th Green Infrastructure Inter- Parish meeting
- 22nd Rubbish Walk
- 22nd AGM and meeting, Dormers Cliff Road, 5.30 pm
- 28th Greenprint Forum Food Sustainability Event, Saxmundham

### March

- 1st-7th Star Count
- 9th Martlesham Repair Hub, Parish Rooms 10-12
- 23rd Waldringfield Repair Cafe, Waldringfield Village Hall 10-12
- 23rd Earth Hour- turn off everything for one hour!

### April

- 22nd Earth Day—we will publish what you can do!

### **Sue Quick**

Chairman Greener Waldringfield / Waldringfield Parish Council Biodiversity Coordinator



# Waldringfield Parish Council

## Councillor Vacancy

**We need members of the community to join us!**



### Who we are...

Waldringfield Parish Council is the first tier of Local Government for the parish. We operate at a level below district and borough councils. As members of the community, we understand the Parish community and can help make grass-roots decisions to help the village, and advocate for Waldringfield at all levels of government.

### Why we need community representation...

Parish Councillors are first and foremost members of the local community. We have a wonderful and vibrant village and look to have representation from all areas of the community so we can make the best decisions for everyone.

### More about what we do...

Waldringfield Parish Council has 9 Councillors – although we are only 8 at the moment and looking for the 9<sup>th</sup> to join us!

Our council does a lot of different things – so it appeals to a variety of people as there will surely be something you're interested in!



*The photopost*

### We provide practical local amenities – such as:

- ◆ Public benches on the beach
- ◆ The rubbish bins, dog bins and the grit bins
- ◆ Signage for the waterfront and playing fields
- ◆ The Photopost
- ◆ Our Village sign

### We own and manage the play area and play equipment:

In 2021/22 – the Council undertook to provide better, newer and more inclusive play equipment. The Council consulted with parents and young people on what we could provide to make it a great experience for the children of the village.

In 2022 we opened the new equipment to rave reviews! We are about to start a new project to renew some of our older pieces as well.







### **We organise community events:**

The Council, on occasion, organises community events – such as the Jubilee and Coronation fetes. Games, entertainment and much fun had by all at these events!

The Warm Room provision is on-going with the generosity of East Suffolk Council. The dedicated volunteers make this a much-loved event in the colder months.

*Photo – Stan Baston*

### **We produce and distribute a community newsletter:**

All your local news and events are distributed to every household 4 times a year.



### **The Council provides community grants to help local organisations.**

Waldringfield has a vibrant community of organisations that contribute to the great Parish we have. We have provided grants to the Waldringfield Wildlife Group to plant bulbs in the verges for Spring, we support the Village Hall and the church in maintain their grounds, and we support the Church Field Trust in their efforts to provide a fantastic green space for villagers.



*Churchyard photo S. Baston*

## The Council represents the community to other levels of government:



The Council is a statutory consultee on village Planning applications, and we take a keen interest in responding to these. This is evident in our strong and on-going involvement in the Brightwell Lakes development. .

While as a body, the Council has limited power to make decisions in terms of other levels of government, our opinions carry weight in those discussions. We have engaged with Highways, Planning, and Norse for services to ensure that the parish voice is heard on issues that matter to us.

We also work well with our District and County councillors, who often attend our meetings, and continue to advocate for change and resolving issues where they arise.

## What you can expect...

Councillors are expected to attend meetings of Council. We meet 11 times a year (monthly with the exception of April) for about 2 hours on a Tuesday evening. Sometimes we have additional meetings, and Councillors also contribute in other ways such as representing the Council on various district groups, investigating projects and ideas, and planning events. There are also special project working groups when there is a bigger project. Participation is on a voluntary basis. Essentially – aside from meetings, the time commitment for Councillors is up to them.

## Am I eligible? The legal bit....

To become a councillor, you have to be:

- A British subject, or a citizen of a commonwealth or European Union country
- Over the age of 18 on election day (or date of Co-option)

Additionally, you have to be one of the following:

- A local government elector in Waldringfield Parish **OR**
- Have, during the whole 12 months preceding election or Co-option, occupied, as owner or tenant, any land or other premises in Waldringfield or within 3 miles of it. **OR**
- Have, during the same period, had your principal or only place of work in Waldringfield or within 3 miles of it.

You cannot stand to be a Parish Councillor if you:

- Hold any paid office or employment with Waldringfield Parish Council
- Are the subject of a bankruptcy restriction order, an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, a debt relief restrictions order or an interim debt relief restrictions order.
- Have, within the five years before the day of the election or co-option, been convicted in the UK of any offence and have had a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) of at least three months without the option of a fine.
- Have been found guilty of corrupt or illegal practices, or was responsible for incurring unlawful expenditure and the court has ordered your disqualification

## Interested?

For more information, please contact Jennifer Shone-Tribley, Clerk at [pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com](mailto:pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com) or by phone 01473 736475.





## Waldringfield Parish Council

### Annual Parish Meeting

**Wednesday 17 April 2024**

**7.30pm—Village Hall (Deben Hall)**

Although arranged by the Parish Council, this is not a Parish Council meeting – it is an opportunity for various groups that are active in the village to present information on their activities, and for people to meet, find out what is happening in the village and discuss any aspect of village life they choose. Refreshments will be served half way through.

If anyone wishes to give a presentation on behalf of a village group, would they please contact the Parish Clerk by email at [pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com](mailto:pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com) by **TUESDAY 02 APRIL 2024**. The Village Hall also has display boards that can be used to publicise information about groups.

The Annual Parish Meeting is an excellent way of keeping in touch with what is happening in the village. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you wish to contribute. A reminder will be posted on Waldringfielders nearer the date.

***Ian Kay (Chair, Waldringfield Parish Council)***



#### **Your Parish Councillors:**

Ian Kay (Chair) - Janet Elliot (Vice Chair)

Serena Gold—Colin Reid

Nigel Shore—Sue Quick

Cathy Couchman—Robert Forsdike

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*To contact the Clerk:*

**Jennifer Shone-Tribley**

Low Farm, Ipswich Road, Waldringfield, IP12 4QU

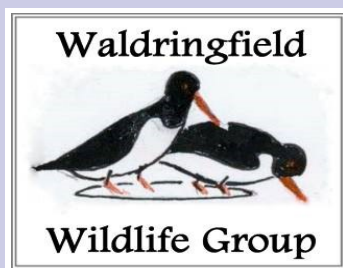
Telephone: 01473 736475

E-mail: [pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com](mailto:pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com)

**ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

and held on the second Tuesday of the month, in the Kennedy Room at the Village Hall—starting at 7:30pm unless otherwise notified.

**Next meeting: 14 May 2024**



## Waldringfield Wildlife Group

Waldringfield Wildlife Group exists to conserve, enhance and record the local wildlife; to protect wildlife habitats and encourage biodiversity; to encourage wildlife-friendly management of land, gardens and public spaces and to encourage a greater interest in the knowledge and love of wildlife in general.

**Meetings & Talks** are in the Deben Hall at the Village Hall.

Members meetings start at 10.00am which precede the talks.

Refreshment break 10.45am.

Talks start at 11.00am unless otherwise stated.

Members: No charge. Visitors welcome: Admission charge: £3.00 for visitors and non-members.

**Field Trips:** Please inform Linda Wilkins or Jill Winter you are joining any of the field trips/guided tours.

**Note:** Priority to paid up members for all field trips.

**New members welcome:** Annual Membership £10.

For more information contact:

The Coordinator: Linda Wilkins ;P: 01473736044; M: 07788286482, E: [linda.thequay@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.thequay@btinternet.com)

Secretary: Jill Winter P: 01473 736125 E: [jillwinter2@gmail.com](mailto:jillwinter2@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Alexis Smith P: 01473 736257 E: [g1dik@btinternet.com](mailto:g1dik@btinternet.com)

*Statement Covid safety : Please do not attend if you or a member of your household test positive or are feeling unwell. Use the hand sanitiser at the door. Chairs will be spaced out in this larger venue and will be ventilated, wear warmer clothes. As you will be aware, this virus has not gone away and there is still a risk of passing on infection. So we would ask everyone to act in a way which protects the safety of others, particularly those who still feel vulnerable. For example, we should avoid having too many people close together indoors, and maintain some level of distancing.*

## **PROGRAMME FOR 2024**

10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Illustrated talk by Martin Tickler: Suffolk Bird Group: House Martins
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Illustrated talk by Simon Hooten : Suffolk Landscapes - different habitats and the different wildlife they attract in Suffolk
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Winter Walk, bird sightings with Chris Baldry. 10:00 Meet at corner of Fish Pond Road & Sandy Lane, walk towards the Maybush via river wall.
26 <sup>th</sup> April	A walk / talk with Simon Read DEP and Jon Wilkins. The Saltmarsh, upstream and downstream. Meet 10.00 at the slip way by the Maybush. Bring a packed lunch, tea/coffee at the sailing club 11.30/12pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Nightingale Walk led by Peter Maddison, followed by alfresco breakfast in Anthea's garden, Newbourne. Meet 6.45am @ Newbourne Springs.
9 <sup>th</sup> May	Nightingale walk along the River Deben, upstream of Waldringfield with Peter Maddison. Meet at the slip way, by the Maybush 6pm
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Illustrated talk by Colin Hawes. Recorder and lead partner in conservation of stag beetles in Suffolk: Survey of Stag Beetles.
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Guided wildlife walk with Nick Mason. Meet 10.00am. Upper Hollesley Common





## Waldringfield History Group

Waldringfield History Group's main aim is to research & record the history of the Village, which includes present day changes & to tell the village of their findings.

We have been finding out about Hemley & Waldringfield Churches and the Baptist Chapel, including Interesting history, interesting stories, & interesting people connected with these places of worship in preparation for our talk on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

We have arranged a "behind the Scenes" trip to The Hold in Ipswich which promises to be very interesting.

We hope to add to our collection of oral histories from people who have lived most of their lives in the village, and we also plan to start on a history of houses in the village.

We next meet on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March. 2pm to 5pm in the Kennedy Room. Everyone is welcome & Subscriptions have been held at £10.00 for the year.

We meet from September to March in the Kennedy Room at the Village Hall usually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 2.00 p.m.

For more information please contact  
Hon Sec: Margaret Lake or Chair: Alyson Videlo  
[waldringfieldhg@gmail.com](mailto:waldringfieldhg@gmail.com)

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH

### EASTER DAY SERVICE

We hope everyone will join us for a joyous **Easter Day Service of Morning Prayer Sunday 31 March at 10.00 am.**

Heavenly hymns will echo and spring flowers will adorn and you never know what else may be balancing among those beautiful flowers!



## MARTLESHAM HEATH SURGERY – PPG NEWS

As we begin 2024, the Martlesham Heath Surgery Practice and Patient Group (PPG) are returning to their programme of bi-monthly meetings.

One of the biggest recent changes at The Surgery is the introduction of a new online consulting tool. The new system Anima replaces AskMyGP, the Anima system went live on Wednesday 17 January 2024. The changeover has gone well generally, in terms of accessing Anima you do this via the surgery website [www.mhdoctors.co.uk](http://www.mhdoctors.co.uk) and selecting the Anima option.

If you have the NHS App or the NHS account, you log into Anima via your NHS account otherwise you can set up your own account for Anima.

Anima works in a very similar manner to AskMyGP although there are a few more steps.

The changeover between the two systems happened very quickly and wasn't announced until very close to the switchover date.

To find out more about Anima and to watch a video on how to submit a request see <https://www.animahealth.com/patients>

The PPG this year are looking to focus their attention on a few projects which will look at several areas raised by both patients and the surgery over the last year.

If you are interested in finding out more about the PPG please either email me at [MartPPG@gmx.com](mailto:MartPPG@gmx.com) or drop a note (with your name & contact details) into the surgery reception in an envelope marked for my attention (Tony Willmott, PPG Chair).

Tony Willmott - Chair, Martlesham Heath Surgery PPG



# LOW FARM

COTTAGES & CAMPING

**Do you have guests coming to visit this summer**

**Low Farm Cottages** are open all year-round - In Waldringfield!

We have **five** 1 and 2 bed cottages located at the entrance to the village!

01473 736475—[www.stayatlowfarm.com](http://www.stayatlowfarm.com)

***We offer a 10% discount to Waldringfield residents!***

Visit our website for photos, availability and booking information



## Waldringfield Church Field Trust

The generous donations of the people of Waldringfield and other admirers of Church Field have allowed us to buy a re-conditioned ride-on mower.

If mild weather plays out through the next few weeks, it won't be long before Martin Spall takes to the driving seat. Thank you, Martin. We are confident that after the particularly dry summer of 2022 and the extremely wet summer of 2023, both of which played havoc with the quality of grass on the football area, it will soon be restored to a decent playing surface and we do encourage the use of the area for playing sport.

A suggestion, made by an attendee at the AGM, that path width should be increased to allow better access for mobility scooters was readily agreed at a recent committee meeting and it was decided that suitable paths will be cut wider this year.

Church Field is used for recreation by many people, some of whom are walkers, runners, strollers, those who wish to sit and take in the view, games players and dog walkers.

Please keep your dog under close control so that picking up after your dog becomes more certain and other visitors to the field are not disturbed by a boisterous animal.

The road hedge has been cut back by Allen Parken and, before this newsletter is published, the long grass of the outfield will be cut. Thank you, Allen.

In mid-January a work party was held. It was good to see that several members of the village were able to take part, together with the Suffolk Coast and Heaths National Landscapes team. Thank you.

Cutting out of overgrown Japanese honeysuckle near the car park, some scrub clearance, the reinstatement of a path, tree pruning and grass scything were undertaken. The next work party will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March and on the day your help with jobs such as bramble bashing and grass raking will be much appreciated.



*Work party members scything. —Photo C Fisher-Kay*

Bee Orchid leaves emerged during January. If we have a spring of average rainfall the plants will flower in June. If the weather is particularly dry, however, as in 2022, the leaves will shrivel and the nutrients absorbed underground so that flowering will not take place.

**Peter Maddison, Church Field Trust**

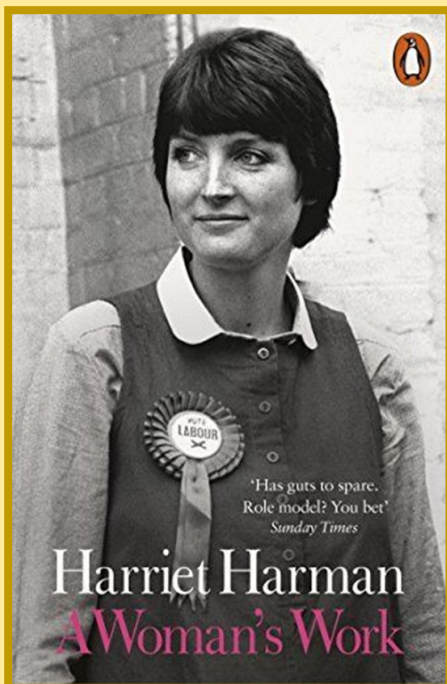


*Newly emerged Bee Orchid leaves. Photo— P Maddison*

# VILLAGE HALL WINTER TALKS

Adults £4 including tea & coffee Under 18s Free—7.30pm start

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 7.30 pm—*Harriet Harman***



Harriet Harman, Britain's longest serving woman MP, is retiring at the next election. At the start of her career, men-only job adverts and a 'women's rate' of pay were the norm, female MPs were a tiny minority - a woman couldn't even sign for a mortgage. But, she argues, we should never just be grateful that things are better now. There's still more to do.

She will talk to us about aspects of her life and work in politics, the subject of her acclaimed memoir published in 2017. Her family has had a holiday home in the village for several decades and her husband, Jack Dromey, is buried in Waldringfield churchyard.

## PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMES TO THE VILLAGE HALL



Book direct with Eastern Angles  
([easternangles.co.uk](http://easternangles.co.uk) 01473 211498):  
Tickets £13.50 each. Early Bird Tickets at  
£12.00 each are available up to 5<sup>th</sup> March  
from Colin Reid, Dormers, Cliff Rd, 01473  
736506 and [colinreid2@btinternet.com](mailto:colinreid2@btinternet.com)

Venture across the Irish Sea to County Kerry this Spring as Eastern Angles present *Stones In His Pockets*. Local lads Jake and Charlie are working as extras on a Hollywood epic movie that has taken over their small village in rural Ireland.

Switching from plucky Irish extra to know-it-all American movie star with a flick of the wrist, Jake and Charlie take on all 15 characters to tell the story of the impact this movie has on their local community. The result is a sad, hilarious and irresistible play that pushes the boundaries of storytelling. Inspired by the cinematic stylings of Wes Anderson, Eastern Angles are also adding newly composed music and video projection to the multi-award winning play.

A hit in Dublin, Edinburgh and London's West End, *Stones In His Pockets* is a chance for audiences to laugh, cry and revel in the power of theatricality.



# A Tree Warden Writes

This winter the tree wardens have organised planting in different spots around the village to continue the gapping up of hedges and also planting 'new' stretches of hedge. Most field boundaries will have had a hedge in the past and also the fields would have been divided up into smaller units. The hedges help to prevent erosion both by run off and by wind. The light soil tends to be blown away if left dry and exposed while the large amounts of rain falling this last year have caused spectacular run off generally around Suffolk where we have seen water streaming off fields onto roads where it never had before. These new hedges and also dead hedges help to conserve the soil and prevent this. Dead hedges are made by setting up two rows of poles, sometimes cut from local woods, and laying brushwood in between, packing it down tightly. This gives good nesting sites for some birds and wildlife corridors for the likes of bank voles, field mice and hedgehogs. In some places we will be placing a dead hedge alongside a living hedge to give it extra protection. Dead hedges gradually decay into the ground but seedling hedging plants are likely to appear 'sown' by birds.

Plants, guards and stakes have been supplied by the Tree Council. Straw for mulching was provided by James Stock our local thatcher. Many thanks to James and all who have helped cultivating and planting during some very cold weather in January!

We still have to use plastic tree guards against rabbits and deer. They also do draw attention to the new planting. However they should all be removed within three years of planting. If this doesn't happen, please remind me or maybe you would like to remove them yourself. Please check with the landowner though!

There are some spare native hedging plants such as hawthorn, field maple and crab apple. Please get in touch if you wish to plant hedges or trees in the countryside.



*Planting the hedge along Sandy Lane (photo by Christine Fisher Kay)*

Your tree wardens are **Betsy Reid, Mariah Ballam and Christine Fisher Kay** (contact 736384)



# Wild for Wildlife

## Waldringfield Wildlife Explorers

A fun, learning-about-wildlife, activities event for children and their families connected to Waldringfield.

Join **Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Forest School Team** to explore nature on your doorstep. Discover the amazing wildlife where you live, through a range of activities and crafts. Learn how you can become a nature champion in your own gardens, parks and the countryside around you. And best of all **HAVE FUN**.

on  
**Tuesday 28th May 2024**  
at  
**CHURCH FIELD**

Mill Rd, Waldringfield, Woodbridge IP12 4PY.

**10.30am to 12pm**

No charge. Funded by Waldringfield Wildlife Group.

Activities will be aimed at Primary aged children but younger and older siblings are very welcome. All children will need supervision and help from their adult.

Please dress for the weather as, although some indoor space and facilities will be available in the Church room, all activities will be outside.

Although this is a dog friendly space, please do not bring dogs to this event.

If you have any additional needs, please do let us know beforehand so we can accommodate all children.

LIMITED PARKING AVAILABLE: There is a small car park but we would welcome walkers and cyclists.

**PLACES ARE LIMITED AND BOOKING IS REQUIRED.**

To book your place contact:

LINDA WILKINS EMAIL: [linda.thequay@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.thequay@btinternet.com)



### **Waldringfield Village Hall Trust**

Coming up on the 16<sup>th</sup> March is the Winter Party and Panto – ‘Cinderella’. Please put it in your diary. Tickets £15 per person for supper, raffle and the panto. Tickets available at the Coffee Morning on March 7<sup>th</sup>, [tickets@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:tickets@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk) and from Nigel King – 01473 736060.

The replacement of the lights and ceiling tiles in the village hall was carried out successfully in November. The old fluorescent lights had lost a lot of their luminosity in the 20 years that they were in place, but this only became evident when the new LED lights were switched on. They are a great improvement. The new tiles are also more acoustically efficient so there is less echo, great for those who are hard of hearing. These improvements were made possible by your many fundraising efforts over the years and also a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Bradley, Robert Forsdike, Tony Lyon and John Nayler for their hard work helping to install the ceiling tiles.



Our thoughts now turn to this year's improvements. Subject to having the necessary funds we would like to improve the disabled facilities, soundproofing of the doors between the Deben Hall and the Kennedy Room, storage and security. We would also welcome any thoughts that you may have, to ensure that the Village Hall remains attractive to all who use it.

It has been suggested that the Village Hall hold regular film nights. These have proven to be popular in other village halls as part of a social evening, with drinks and nibbles. We are keen to support new initiatives such as this. So if anyone is interested in organising film nights at the Village Hall, please contact me or any member of the Committee.

***Philip Hall, Chairman***

***Waldringfield Village Hall Trust***

[chair@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:chair@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk)



WALDRINGFIELD VILLAGE HALL TRUST

# WINTER SUPPER AND PANTO 'CINDERFELLA'

SATURDAY MARCH 16th.

7.00 for 7.30pm

at the Village Hall,  
School Road, Waldringfield

TICKETS £15 PER PERSON

Supper - Raffle - Panto

Tickets on sale from March 7th at :

the monthly Coffee Morning March 7th

or

[tickets@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:tickets@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk)

or

Nigel King - 01473 736060



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