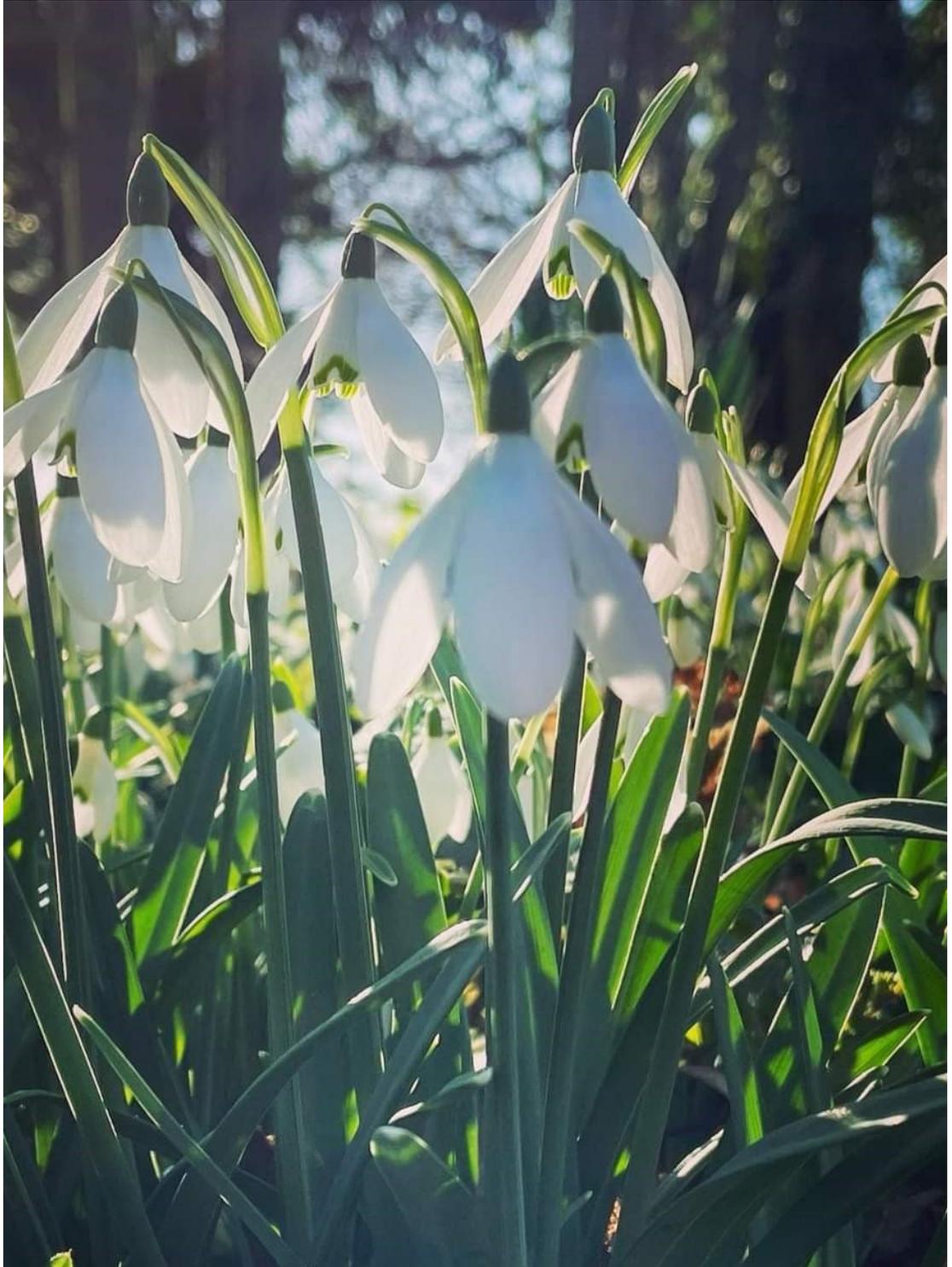




No.80—Summer 2023



Photo—Julie Kemp—Waldringfielders Community

Update on Brightwell Lakes May 2023

As we can see the work at the entrances and on-site continues.

The A12 roadworks and the main entrance onto the site are taking shape. Taylor Wimpey are in discussions with the District Council (ESC) regarding retaining the existing 4 metre high bund which runs along the A12 to create a more natural boundary.

We are expecting revised plans for the main areas of the SANGS, open green space including the lake, to be presented shortly. Taylor Wimpey believe that they have enhanced the original application including the areas of play-space.

Names have been agreed for 15 roads in the western section of the development, including the main spine road. The names for this section are all associated with the site's previous links to science, technology and flying. The spine road will be named after Auster (a type of aircraft). Others include Paterson, Babbage, Faraday etc. Roads in the central and eastern section of the development will reflect the original nature of the "lost" heathland and the lake.

It is anticipated that houses on the first parcels of land, referred to as E1 & W1, will start to be occupied from the summer of 2024. The total of 317 to be delivered by 2028.

Planning applications for the next three parcels of land, referred to as W2, 5 & 6 to the west of the site are expected in the first half of 2024. These applications will be for a total of 390 dwellings which would be delivered by 2032.

The current estimated completion date for the whole site has been pushed back to 2044.

At the moment there is no firm decision regarding the school. Suffolk County Council is the body who will decide on whether it will be an all-through school or how it will be broken down. They are currently in discussions with potential Academies. Taylor Wimpey are negotiating with SCC to hand over the land for the school when 350 dwellings are occupied. Sports pitches will be made available when 600 dwellings are occupied.

The current plans for the allotments in the south western section of the site include dividing each allotment plot into 2 or 3 raised beds plus communal sheds & possibly greenhouses. The area allocated to allotments on the eastern boundary will include a community orchard.

Taylor Wimpey now have a website dedicated to Brightwell Lakes which can be found at - <https://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/new-homes/martlesham/brightwell-lakes>

Our next update will be in the Autumn Parish Newsletter.

Cllr Janet Elliot



Waldringfield Gardeners

We are promoting **NO MOW MAY** – hold your nerve and rest the mower – the flowers will come. As will the heat and longer grass shields the ground from scorching. Also if you cut back the sward the roots prune themselves to keep in proportion: grass with shallower roots recovers less quickly. We hope some with longer grass will do a couple of flowering plants counts – for guidance see the PlantLife website. Similar to the Big Garden Bird Watch but for plants! But that is for next time too!

Our June event is a visit to **Kentwell Hall** – contact Jacky Waghorn if you want to go – shared lifts if we can.

And of course, we hope lots of people are preparing for the **Flower, Produce and Craft Show** on 12th August. With all the water stored in the ground after this wet spring perhaps we will have crops worth showing this year!

All events in March and April were sparsely attended – the Invasive Species Attack on *Allium Triquetrum* yielded a generous barrowful however, and it is good to know that some Hemley residents have done a stalwart job on keeping the Alexanders at bay both in Newbourne and where Mill Road swings right at Church Farm – there are native bluebells established on that bank, in danger of being swamped. The propagating workshop on March 11th was too early – too little growth but a small group has some fun sharing. The Composting Workshop on 25th was also a minority taste. But we will continue to offer events and happenings and hope for greater uptake at some point! Especially if you tell us what you would like!



Finally, if you want an allotment – we don't have them in Waldringfield but WG was set up with the express aim of getting them – please contact the Parish Clerk so that your name can be added to the list. We remain convinced that an allotment site is a necessary part of a village like ours, especially because more houses are on smaller plots and there is increasing anxiety about the security of food supplies and about the provenance of food.

Betsy Reid

Sec Waldringfield Gardeners.

Coffee Mornings

The monthly coffee mornings are a popular feature of village events, and are attended by a variety of people from the village and surrounding area. It is lovely to see people from across the age ranges – from babies and toddlers to nonagenarians!



Our special “Coronation Coffee Morning” held on the 27th April, was particularly well attended. Our own “King” for the morning (Nigel King) and his “Consort of Some sort” (Jackie Brinsley), set about their “Royal” duties with gusto.

The weather was kind, so this enabled games to go ahead outdoors as well as in the hall.

A few people pinned the diamond up the King’s nose and in his ears (no – not Nigel, but a cardboard cutout!). Someone did however get it right in the end and managed to pin one on his crown.



Other things included were a “Right Royal Raffle”, a Coronation cake which was cut by the “King” and distributed far and wide, guess the number of “jewels” in the jar, and more!

We hope everyone had a fun time.

The “Royal” photographer (Stan Baston) managed to capture some great photos of the event, which have since been pinned up on the village hall noticeboard.

The Coffee Morning Team really enjoys putting on the monthly coffee mornings, but they couldn’t do it without help. We would like to thank everyone helps in any way – i.e. by donating cakes and raffle prizes, and /or spending time setting up tables, or clearing up at the end. This is much appreciated.

Our next two dates are **1st June and 6th July.**

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards,

Chris Lyon – On behalf of The Coffee Morning Team

01473 736291



Waldringfield Sailing Club

Established 1921

The sailing season is now fully underway and there have generally been good turnouts for club activities. Racing started on 18th March and the first major event of the season, the Easter Egg Open Meeting, was held in April with 82 boats sailing, including several visitors. Wednesday evening racing has now commenced with five separate starts for different classes, accompanied by social activities in the Clubhouse. The Coronation Cup, a trophy presented at the time of that of Queen Elizabeth II, was sailed on the date of the King's Coronation and accompanied by a fly past of the Red Arrows on their way to London.



Photo—Alexis Smith - the winners of the 2023 Coronation Cup

Racing is regularly held on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the summer, with additional other days from time to time. On Saturday mornings there are often sessions for those new to sailing and training events, especially for youngsters. The Club is planning to host a boating day for children from Waldringfield School, and some other local schools, in early July.

Our Regatta weekend is scheduled for 23-25 June and will include the traditional shore events for children and adults – sandcastle competition, fancy dress, running, rowing and swimming races etc.



Photo—Alexis Smith

On the evening of Sunday 25 June there will be the annual Yachtsman's Service where the local parishioners come to the beach to join with yachtsmen and the public at large. Later in the summer we will host Cadet Week for junior sailors, and the Bottle Boat Championships which are held from the beach. During the course of the summer some of the yachts will cruise in a group to different places, including Orford and London.

Further details relating to the Club can be found on the website www.waldringfieldsc.com, or by calling by when the Clubhouse is open, especially Wednesday evenings and Saturdays.

William Sudell, President

Warm Room & Community Pantry

For the last 16 weeks the parish council, with the support of an amazing group of volunteers, has been hosting a weekly Warm Room and Community Pantry. This has been funded by the District Council's ESC Ease the Squeeze initiative and has also been supported by donations by Steve Lomas of Deben Inns.

The Community Pantry was open initially only on Wednesday afternoons and was used very occasionally. We then extended the opening hours to include Tuesday evening but this did not increase the level of take up.

The Warm Room has been well attended by a broad range of residents who have come together on a regular basis to meet and also make, new friends and have a chat over a cup of tea & biscuits. Many people have expressed a hope that a similar weekly get together may be made available during the autumn/winter months which we think is a reflection of its overall success.



It is unclear at the moment whether funding from the District Council will still be available but in any event the parish council, along with the village hall committee, is exploring ways in which we may be able to provide a similar venue for this coming Autumn. We will send out an update when we have some more definite options.

In the meantime, many thanks again to the volunteers and the sponsors who made it possible and we hope everyone has a lovely summer.

Cllrs Janet Elliot & Cathy Couchman



Photo—Tracy Dickerson

MARTLESHAM HEATH SURGERY – PPG NEWS

Your local pharmacy can provide a wealth of different services, often allowing you the opportunity to seek help & advice without always needing to see a member of the practice team. These services are in addition to the dispensing of prescriptions which is what many people visit the pharmacy for. Many prescriptions are now sent directly to the pharmacy from the surgery, using the Electronic Prescription Service

In addition to dispensing medications, pharmacies can offer services such as:

Prescription and medication advice	Emergency contraception
New medicine information	Head lice management
Prescription delivery	Weight management
Medication reviews	Smoking cessation
Contraceptive advice and information	Blood pressure testing
Travel vaccines	

Many of these services are provided either under the NHS or in some cases some services are available for a fee.

Perhaps you could see what services your usual pharmacy is able to provide. Many pharmacies have a Consultation Room to enable you to talk to the pharmacist in private.

NHS Prescription charges increased to £9.35 per item on 1 April 2023. If you pay for your prescriptions and typically have more than 1 item per month a Pre Payment Certificate (PPC) may be more cost effective. Currently an annual PPC costs £111.60 per year, if you have 2 prescription items a month you would save £120. A 3 monthly PPC is also available for £31.25, again if you have 2 prescription items a month you would save £26 over the 3 months. You can purchase an NHS Prescription Prepayment Certificate either online, search “NHS Prescription Prepayment Certificate” or you can also purchase at some pharmacies.

Since 1 April 2023 a NHS Hormone Replacement Therapy Prescription Prepayment Certificate (HRT PPC) was introduced. This enables you to access HRT medication at a fixed annual price of £19.30, which is the cost of 2 single prescriptions. Again to find out more either go online and search for “NHS Hormone Replacement Therapy Prescription Prepayment Certificate (HRT PPC)” or speak to your pharmacist. It is important to note that if already have the standard PPC it will cover your HRT medication already. So there should be no need to purchase the HRT PPC in addition. However, you can check this using the PPC & HRT PPC websites or by asking your pharmacist.

If you are interested in finding out more about the PPG please either email me at 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



Waldringfield History Group

The Group wound up their 2022/23 Season with a talk entitled “Waldringfielders in the Frame”. This talk centred on the numerous artists who had either lived in the Village or were a long time associated with the village. Some were historical such as William Brock, Thomas Henry Waller,; some in the more recent past such as Rev Arthur Pretyman Waller, Arthur Henry Nauton Waller, &

Ruth Waller, George Jones, Ann Brigid Derham, Audrey Fitzjohn, William Lawrence Bragg and others were very recent such as David Ruffle, & Joe Lubbock.

Completing the talk after the interval was an in-depth look at the characters pictured in the “MaybushCartoon” by Ronald ‘Carl’ Giles. Many of the characters were local personalities such as Ernie Nunn, George Arnot, Bryan Hawkes, Don Spear, Albert & Gracie Hill & Jack Alderton and many others.

The talk was concluded with the summing up of the Group’s Project 2020 vision and an invitation to find out more on our website. More information has since come in on characters in the Giles Cartoon following the talk, and several local people were interested in participating in the 2020 vision project.

Monthly meetings will start again on **14th Sept**, 5th October & the AGM on 9th November from 2.00 till 5.00pm. Subscription is £10 per year to join. For more information please contact the Hon.Secretary Margaret Lake 01394 283347 or Waldringfieldhg@gmail.com

Your Parish Councillors:

Ian Kay (Chair)
Janet Elliot (Vice Chair)
Serena Gold—Colin Reid
Nigel Shore—Sue Quick
Cathy Couchman

To contact the Clerk:

Jennifer Shone-Tribley

Low Farm, Ipswich Road, Waldringfield, IP12 4QU

Telephone: 01473 736475

E-mail: 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: 13 June 2023



Councillor Vacancy (2)

Waldringfield Parish Council

Following the elections in May 2023, Waldringfield Parish Council has two vacancies for a Councillor, for which all members of the community are welcome to apply. When vacancies arise, Parish Councils may fill the vacancy through the process called of Co-option. We are seeking to fill our two vacancies through this process.

The role of Councillor does not attract any remuneration. Councillors are expected to attend the monthly meetings of Council. The role is varied and enables local people to use their skills and experience to enhance the work undertaken by the Council for the benefit of the community.

The Council wishes to invite interested people to contact the Clerk for an information pack, which details eligibility and application requirements. We also encourage applicants to visit www.beacouncillor.org.uk for more information.

Additional Note: Successful candidates if co-opted, would serve a term of 4 years.

The Council is committed to achieving a balanced composition of Councillors that reflects the Waldringfield community.

Date of next meeting : Tuesday 13 June 2023

Closing date: Wednesday 05 July 2023

Applications considered at the WPC meeting on: Tuesday 11 July 2023

Co-option meeting: Tuesday 08 August 2023

If you are interested – please contact the Clerk:

Jennifer Shone-Tribley - Clerk

Post: Low Farm, Ipswich Road, Waldringfield, Woodbridge IP12 4QU

e-mail – pc.waldringfield@googlemail.com

phone: 01473 736475



WALDRINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Local Elections

As you know, elections took place on 4th May. The number of places on Waldringfield Parish Council is nine, but since only seven candidates stood the election was uncontested and all seven candidates were returned.

So we are still two short of the ideal number. If anyone is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor could they please contact our Clerk, Jennifer Shone-Tribley, at the address provided elsewhere in the newsletter.

At the District level we now have two newly elected ESC District Councillors for the Orwell & Villages District Ward: **Mike Ninnmey** and **Lee Reeves**, and I look forward to working with them both. There were no County level elections.

Ian Kay (Chair, Waldringfield Parish Council)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Since Yahoogroups stopped operating all NW notifications have been sent out via the Waldringfielders googlegroup. Any alerts or information that appear relevant to the very local area will be forwarded via this group asap. To join it please follow the instructions on the community groups page of the village website (waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/our-village/community-groups/) or contact the administrator of that group.

You can still send information to the co-ordinator of NW by email and this address is still waldringfieldnw@yahoo.co.uk operational. You cannot post direct to the NW group via this email. Information received and deemed of interest or important to the village will be forwarded to the Waldringfielders googlegroup at the earliest opportunity.

There was a report of tools being stolen from a van in the sailing club car park just before Easter, but unfortunately details were not received until many days after the event and so warnings could not be sent out. I believe the victim also didn't report this to the Police. The Police have always asked to be kept aware of local crimes and they do endeavour to send out more patrols if possible to try and prevent more from occurring and it also helps them build up a picture of where these crimes are happening and warn others.

Felixstowe Safer Neighbourhood Team:

The contact details for this area are:

Telephone non emergencies- 101

Email -Felixstowe.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Visit the [Felixstowe SNT Website](http://suffolk.police.uk/contact-us) (suffolk.police.uk/contact-us) or Neighbourhood Watch Suffolk (suffolknwa.co.uk/) for more details on receiving local alerts from Suffolk Police. They tend to be far more targeted than they once were.

You can also sign up to your own alerts via the [Ourwatch](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk/) website (www.ourwatch.org.uk/) This website also has much information regarding cybercrime, scams, antisocial behaviour and crime prevention.

Greener Waldringfield



Since the last newsletter our main focus has been on forwarding the **Green Infrastructure Workshop** for the parishes of Waldringfield, Newbourne, Hemley, Martlesham, Kesgrave, Brightwell with Foxhall and Purdis Farm, and Rushmere St Andrew. This will be facilitated by Prof Peter Hobson, who has run workshops of this kind for Essex County Council, and has been doing a series of talks for the Woodbridge Climate Action Centre. The date has been confirmed for 30th August and we hope to have the forty stakeholders confirmed in a fortnight – we do know who our Waldringfield ones will be however: Ian Kay and Mariah Balham. The major funding is coming from the Greenprint Forum with support funding from all the participating councils.

We hope the outcome will be a comprehensive and co-ordinated plan to embody the area's Nature Recovery Strategy, which is anyway a statutory obligation for Parishes but much better done at wider scale.



Meanwhile our **fifth Repair Café** on March 4th saw some interesting repairs carried out – the sensitive restoration of old lamps and Scottish darning figured large and several folks got their tools sharpened for the coming season.



The **Food Savvy Workshop** on 16th March focusing on not wasting food, was the first of a series being offered by Suffolk County Council to other parishes. Most food is wasted at the domestic level – a shockingl. slices of bread daily across England, for instance. We also shared tips for what to do with the awkward bits – onion skins make excellent stock powder for instance, if dried and ground!

The most interest was shown in the stall demonstrating air friers large and small, and various other methods of cooking eg slow cookers, microwaves etc. Ovens are by far the most expensive to run!



Water Testing: with Waldringfield being designated one of only two new bathing sites, the regular testing of the water being carried out by GW is even more relevant. We are working with Woodbridge on this.

Verges: at our most recent meeting concern was voiced about the erosion of our verges by careless driving and large vehicles and we will be discussing this further.

Betsy Reid

Sec GW



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.

Visitors welcome.

Members: No charge

Admission charge: £3.00 for visitors and non-members.

Field Trips: Please inform Linda Wilkins or Jill Winter if 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 further details contact:

Coordinator: Linda Wilkins h: 736044 mob: 07788286482
linda.thequay@btinternet.com

Secretary: Jill Winter h: 736125 jillwinter2@gmail.com

Treasurer: Alexis Smith h: 736257 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



WWG PROGRAMME FOR 2023

- June 7th** Guided bird sighting walk with Chris Baldry along the River Deben 10.30am at the dinghy park
- June 10th** Illustrated talk by **Scott Mayson, BTO : Bird Track and bird migration.**
- June 29th** Bat detecting evening walk with Duncan Sweeting, DCS Ecology.
- June tbc** Opening of moth trap at Julia's, Plum Tree Cottage with Tony & Sandy Fox.
- July/Aug tbc.** Summer Picnic.
- October 14th** **AGM 10.00am.** Followed by an illustrated talk by Gi Greiko, Suffolk Bird Group : Bird sightings and locations in our locality
- December 16th** Illustrated talk by Duncan Sweeting, Principal Ecologist, DCS Ecology Animal tracking & Signs. Followed by **members** bring & share Christmas Lunch
<https://greenerwaldringfield.org/>

Waldringfield Swifts

Watch The Skies – They're back. Swifts have been arriving back in the UK and have been seen in Waldringfield and East Suffolk.

You may have noticed that some of our first swifts have arrived back from their winter feeding grounds in Africa. The first two swifts sighted in Waldringfield were reported this year by John Nunn with great excitement. This sighting on the 30th April 2023 is a week earlier than last year with three swifts seen flying high above John's garden and later the same day three were seen in lower Waldringfield . Other sightings since include high above over Fishpond Rd, School Lane and above the Maybush PH.

*Photo: credit to David Sainsbury SOS
Whats App Group*



Many Waldringfield residents have prepared for their arrival with more swift boxes being installed and call sound systems switched on to call the breeding swifts to potential nest sites. Anticipation is high and the question is will swifts return to the nest boxes they either used or explored last year? It can take time for the juveniles to attune themselves and make use of the wall mounted nest boxes especially if they are in an area where swifts have not made historical use of or not had available the natural nest sites they find under the eaves of roofs or in crooks and crannies of our buildings. As these nest sites become unavailable to swifts due to renovations and modernisation it becomes increasingly important to provide alternatives such as installing swift bricks into the structure of the house build, modifying soffit boards to allow swifts access or to provide wall mounted swift boxes as seen in Waldringfield.

WWG were delighted to be allocated a blue SOS flag from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust/Suffolk Bird group which can be seen on display under the swift boxes at Waldringfield Primary School on the approach into the village. The flag highlights that we in Waldringfield have an active swift group along with other communities in East Suffolk such as Kirton, Felixstowe, Stradbroke, Woodbridge, Melton, Aldeburgh Southwold, Reydon, Halesworth, Framlingham and Wickham Market.

Funding for the flags came from East Suffolk Council Greenprint Forum. A big thankyou to Headteacher Sarah Wood who with parental support arranged display of the flag up on the school building in the absence of a village flag pole to fly it.

But everywhere Swifts are in decline. The swift is currently an Amber List Bird of Conservation Concern although the rate of decline strongly suggests it should be considered as being on the Red List – the highest level of conservation concern. BTO census data indicate recent losses of around 45% of the UK population in just under 20 years (1994 – 2012.) To help and save swifts from extinction please take note of Swift Conservation Guidance: – **swift-conservation.org** which includes:

- Leave existing nest places un-disturbed;
- If re-roofing make new nest access holes to match the old ones exactly;
- New build: – use internal nest spaces are the best using swift bricks;
- If the above cannot be done fit external nest boxes.

Swifts are very neat nesters with little impact on us. Unlike house martins there are no piles of droppings outside and their small nest of feathers and dried plant material is kept neat and tidy.

Your actions can make all the difference. Letting planners know where swifts are nesting can ensure checks are made before roof improvements start or help to justify the need to include purpose build swift bricks or nest boxes in new developments.

If you know where swifts are nesting or have put up swift boxes please let Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service know by logging onto the RSPB swift mapper app: www.swiftmapper.org.uk or www.suffolkbis.org.uk

What To Do if you find a Grounded Swift: Suffolk Wildlife Trust Advise:

- Do not throw the bird up to help it fly, this generally causes injury;
- Put the bird in a quiet, warm safe place away from disturbance. On a tea towel in a ventilated shoe box is excellent;
- Do not attempt to feed the swift;
- Phone your nearest swift carer direct to arrange collection/delivery of the bird.

Framlingham – Zoe 07955 513713

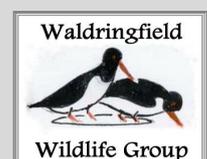
You can offer the swift a drink by wiping a wet cotton bud around the edge of the bill keeping away from its nostrils.

Visit Swift-Conservation.org for more information.

Lastly enjoy watching our visiting swifts as they herald the arrival of Spring and Summer on warm summer evenings. They do not stay for long with many preparing to depart in early August although the later breeders can still be seen until October.

Do contact me if I can be of any help or answer queries or concerns.

Linda Wilkins, Coordinator WWG



ALL SAINTS CHURCH

All Saint's celebrated the Coronation with most stunning of Flower Festivals!

The time and trouble that was taken to fill the Church with such beauty was astounding. Generously sponsored by loyal villagers.

This has helped us raise funds for the tower parapet which needs repair..



Photo—Cathy Couchman



Photo—Tracy Dickerson



Photo—Cathy Couchman

Martlesham Wilds

Simon Couchman was thrilled to hear the news about the Suffolk Wildlife Trust's new Martlesham Wilds reserve & when the Waldringfield Wildlife group started talking about ways they could raise funds to support this project Simon thought designing and selling Tea Towels was one suggestion which matched his skill set having spent much of his working life in the graphic design industry. So he designed this splendid tea towel & had it printed. The Wildlife group has now sold them all and raised a total of £515.00 for the SWT.

Photo of Simon & Charlie Zakss Engagement Officer for the Suffolk Wildlife Trust



Waldringfield Street Party but in the Village Hall!!

To Celebrate The Coronation of King Charles III

It was wonderful to see so many villagers coming together on Bank Holiday Monday for our Coronation Celebrations. As you know the unpromising local weather forecast meant a last minute change of plan from a "Picnic in the Park" to a "Street Party" at the Village Hall.

The weather, as unpredictable as ever, turned out to be very kind to us on the day and so we were also able to be in the garden outdoors to enjoy the full range of games & races, plus a quiz trail and of course, a visit from the Huxley Farm miniature donkeys.



It was a joyful event attended by so many of the community, across all age ranges, coming together on a weekend of special celebrations.

I would like to thank the fantastic volunteers for all their hard work & enthusiasm.

Jackie & Anna for organising the races & games, Stephen for making the "Splat the Royal Rat", Bob for the fiendish "Get the Buzz-wire", Jules for the delightful donkeys, Nell for the Hedgehog Quiz Trail, Robert &

Joyce for decorating and setting out the Village Hall so beautifully (with virtually no notice), Nigel, Paul, Richard, Chris & John, (The Kingsmen) for the great music (even got me dancing), Roberto Ices (the Stock family) who provided such wonderful (& very popular) ice creams and who very generously have donated £250 to St Elizabeth Hospice, Tracy for being the official photographer, we will be soon adding some great pictures to the website, and Councillors Ian, Cathy, Serena, Sue & Colin for their help on the day.

A big thank you to all who helped, participated and celebrated.—Cllr Janet Elliot



Photos—Tracy Dickerson

Waldringfield Church Field Trust

The goal post has been moved to the other end of Church Field for which we have to thank Ian, Peter and David (picture R) for their Herculean efforts



Also putting in a bit of hard work are the badgers who continue to excavate large quantities of sand from deep underground. This tends to spill over onto the path by the top entrance so we have suggested people bring a barrow or bucket if they want to help themselves.

The field has been covered with dandelions, very good for bees etc., and now the dandelion clocks make a display accompanied by buttercups. Birds seen recently include several skylarks, the kestrel, buzzards, yellowhammers, linnets, house sparrows, dunnocks, robins, chaffinch, swallows.



We will be observing No Mow May and it will be interesting to see what plants come up and flower during this month. However our old mower has now been put out to grass....If anyone is able to donate a ride on mower please get in touch!

Christine Fisher-Kay

Waldringfield Church Field Trust

01473-736384

Hedgehog Corner

Hedgehog Awareness Week was April 30th to May 8th but hedgehogs will need our help throughout the year in many ways. Everyone in the parish should have received a hedgehog leaflet or two through their letterbox. *If you did not get one please ask me.* The Hedgehog Preservation Society Trust has been promoting this as they do every year to encourage people to think about how they can help hedgehogs, whose numbers continue to fall. Although badgers have been blamed research has shown that it is mainly loss of habitat which has led to the demise of hedgehogs and other farmland species.

At the excellent Coronation Party in the village hall Nell Sully organised a fun hedgehog quiz for children who enjoyed finding out some interesting facts about hedgehogs, such as that they only eat insects not plants, baby hedgehogs are called 'hoglets' and their spines are made from the same stuff as our fingernails and hair (keratin). Children are encouraged to become hedgehog champions and help hedgehogs in all sorts of ways such as:

Make sure there is access to your neighbouring gardens like a 125mm square or round gap in a fence (helps hedgehogs to roam around the village and find enough food); Put out shallow dishes of water especially in dry weather; Make sure ponds have an easy way to climb out like a beach or a ramp (this helps other creatures too if they fall in); Remove or tidy away anything which might damage or entangle a hedgehog such as loose netting or litter like plastic cups and drinks cans (which hedgehogs can get stuck in)

Lots of other ideas are in the leaflets or see online websites such as www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk Hedgehogs like just the sort of habitat you find under a hedge – weeds, or wild flowers, which provide homes for beetles, snails and slugs which are the hedgehogs' natural food.

Please let us know if you see a hedgehog or the signs of one like hedgehog poo (very black, size of a small earthworm), footprints possibly or spotting one ambling around at night. The wildlife group have a trail camera and a footprint tunnel which can be borrowed by members. Footprint tunnels are easy to make and the instructions can be found online, for example.: <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/how-to-make-a-footprint-tunnel.html>. By leaving the leaf litter – the ground layer of decayed leaves, twigs and debris from trees on the ground around your garden and not tidying everything away we hope the wildlife which depends on little insects and spiders will return.

PLEASE NOTE: Since April 2022 Metaldehyde Slug pellets can no longer be sold or used in the UK. The pesticide called Metaldehyde poses an unacceptable risk to birds, dogs, and wildlife such as hedgehogs.

Christine Fisher Kay, Waldringfield Wildlife Group

To report sightings of hedgehogs please phone 01473-736384 or email cmf.landscape@btinternet.com



Photos: Hedgehog having a rummage caught on trail camera (L); Two hedgehogs last year in our garden (R)





The Village Hall

Hopefully you will see various improvements to the village hall over the coming weeks and months as part of a sustained programme of works over the coming years.

The next phase will involve converting the current lighting to led. This was a recommendation of a recent energy audit. As well as cutting our carbon footprint, it should also reduce our electricity bill and reduce the need to replace light bulbs on a regular basis. We are applying for grant aid but will not know if we are successful for some weeks. Fingers crossed!

Those who are familiar with the village hall will know that we are short of storage space. This means that chairs have to be stored in the Kennedy Room and in the corridor, which is far from ideal. In an attempt to make better use of the space we have available, we have decided to trial having a combined medical room and office and use the old medical room as an additional store. The existing store will then be used purely for the storage of tables and chairs, eliminating the need to store chairs in the corridor.

We have two sheds and one has unfortunately passed its sell by date. We will look to replace it in the next few months. The eagle eyed amongst you may also notice new taps in the toilets!

We are also in the process of building a new website which we hope will be more comprehensive and user friendly.

The ongoing physical improvements may cause an element of disruption but we hope to keep this to an absolute minimum.

The changes are only possible because of your continuing support by using the hall, fundraising and supporting the lottery. This is very much appreciated, as are your ideas and feedback.

Philip Hall, Chairman

Waldringfield Village Hall Trust

1 School Lane, Waldringfield

IP12 4QP

chair@waldringfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Waldringfield Wildlife Group

Invites you to

An Illustrated Talk

Delve into the world of bird migration and how BirdTrack provides a finger on the pulse to what species are arriving and departing across the UK.



By Scott Mayson

BirdTrack Organiser, British Trust for Ornithology

Saturday 10th June at 11.00 am

Waldringfield Village Hall

Admission: Non-members & Visitors £3

Paid up Members no charge

Preceded by a Members meeting at 10.00 am prompt start.

New members welcome (Membership £10)

Enquiries: Linda 736044



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