

# Walton News

Autumn 2022

## Walton Parish Council

### Walton Village Green

The Village Green is a much loved feature of the Parish. On the Parish Council website, you can see the definitive map of the Village Green for which the Parish Council acts as legal custodian. The Parish Council is responsible for grass cutting and the cost of this is met from the Parish Precept – part of the Council Tax charge every year.

In 2022, the Parish Council had to draw on reserves to fund the grass-cutting which is delivered under an annual contract. This is not a sustainable position, and consequently, the Parish Council set out a display at the Community Day in August to highlight the on-going financial issue and to seek ideas and views from Parishioners on what we could do differently. You can see [the presentation](#) on this on the Parish website.

*(continued overleaf)*

The Parish Council is now seeking tenders for the grass cutting contract for 2023. The tender is different to reflect some of the feedback received and the anticipated cost:

- Fewer cuts
- A slightly smaller area to be cut
- No grass to be collected

But even with these changes, it is highly likely that the Council will need to raise additional funds via the precept to cover the cost.

This is not a sustainable position and there are clearly many views on how the Village Green, grass cutting and environmental concerns could be addressed in the future.

So, the Parish Council has resolved to hold an open meeting in the Spring 2023 (Date to be confirmed) to enable all Parishioners to contribute their views to the future of the Village Green from April 2024 onwards.

## **Walton Play Area**

The Parish Council has secured a Grant from the Carlisle City Council to fund maintenance and improvements to the Play Area. It is a grant condition that we must complete the work by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

The first action has been the reinstatement of the Hip Hop this month. More work is planned to refresh some parts of the other equipment. But a major concern is to change rubber matting and to reinstate the surfaces underneath most of the play equipment. The current play area and equipment has been in place for 10 years – hopefully this investment will see us well into the 2030s!





## Village Hall Committee

This summer Walton Village Hall Committee were pleased to start organising community events again after the enforced break due to COVID restrictions.

In July we held our Music on the Green event which is always very popular, it was attended by the same number of people as when last held in 2019. A great night was had by all, delicious food and lots of people dancing the night away! We have set the date for next year's event as Saturday 8 July 2023. The Hall Committee would like to thank the Parish Councillors & people in the Parish who helped put up and take down the marquees this summer, which enabled us to hold the event on the Village Green, The Sandwich Bar in Brampton for the catering, the Old Vicarage Brewery for the bar, and Sally & Stephen Slater for providing the bouncy castle.

We held a Cocktail Evening with The Topsy Filly which was well attended and a lot of fun! We are holding a **Christmas Cocktail Evening on Friday 9 December** – save the date!

We will be hosting a theatre production of 'The Scrooge Diaries' in December, further details to follow.

**Walton Christmas Light Switch On** will take place on **Sunday 4 December 2022 at 3.30pm**. Walton & Lees Hill C of E School will be singing some festive songs and mince pies and mulled wine will be served, all welcome.

Our **Community Lunch**, for those in the Parish of retirement age & above, will also take place again next year on **Sunday 29 January 2023**.

We are pleased that the Reading Room is being regularly hired by various craft groups, for activities including bag making, willow weaving, fabric weaving, stained glass workshops, jewellery making and more, as well as by families for birthday parties etc. If you would like to hire the Reading Room, please contact [emma@waltonparish.co.uk](mailto:emma@waltonparish.co.uk) for more information.

*(continued overleaf)*

As you will have noticed, we have removed the sandstone bell tower from the Village Hall as part of it had fallen away and left the structure unstable. Alongside organising the repair of the bell tower, we have been working with ACTCumbria to ensure our Hall is as energy efficient as possible and are in the process of undertaking energy efficiency surveys to identify areas on which we can improve and thus run the Hall as sustainably and financially efficiently as possible. We are therefore waiting for the results of the survey in case that identifies other potential roofing work so that the repairs can be done alongside each other.

EVERYONE is invited to an **IDEAS** meeting



Come along to share ideas and start planning  
our parish celebrations for



**KING CHARLES III CORONATION**

**Monday 23 January @ 7pm in Walton Village Hall**

## **A Budget-Busting Winter Warmer!**

Helen has adapted one of her popular soup recipes for you to try at home.

### **Tomato & Lentil Soup** (makes about 4 portions)

Chop up an onion and sweat in butter (or oil) in your soup pan. Add a handful of red lentils and 2 tins of chopped tomatoes (the cheap & cheerful ones will do fine). Add a stock cube of your choice, add a couple of tomato tins of water and simmer until the lentils are soft. Don't boil heavily as the lentils will stick. Season with salt & pepper, whizz it up in the blender and serve.

A quick and easy soup that is cheap to make but tastes good. Portions can be frozen if you're batch cooking too.

You can add new twists to this recipe by adding a sprinkle of chilli, or the juice and zest of an orange.

# Walton Young Farmers

Walton Young Farmers Club has been pleased to welcome members, both new and old, since the year commenced in September. We meet fortnightly on a Monday night and our usual meeting venue is Walton Village Hall.

Young Farmers is a rural youth organisation for young people aged 10 to 28. Anyone can join Young Farmers, you don't have to be from a farming background! We take part in many activities including visits, talks, sports, charity fundraising and competitions, such as stock judging and quizzes.

Our future meetings include:

Monday 31 October - Halloween Games Night

Monday 14 November - Fusion

Monday 28 November - Talk by Capontree Vets

Monday 5 December - Pool, Darts and Dominoes

Tuesday 13 December - Christmas Meal

Monday 19 December - Ice Skating

If anyone is interested in joining or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Lee (Club Secretary) on 07769 156472.

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## Reading Room Café

Winter Opening Times: Wednesday - Sunday 10:00 - 3:00

**Closed** for holidays **Sunday 6th November**, reopening on **Wednesday 16th November**.

**On 14th, 15th, 16th December: pre-booked Christmas lunches only.**

The café will be **closed** for the Christmas break from **16th December** and will **reopen** on **Wednesday 11th January**, dates and times to be confirmed.

Thank you to all customers for their continuing support.

## Walton WI

Walton WI have spent a busy 2022 together, with meetings including a fitness session, a talk on 'The Ghosts of Hampton Court' by a tour guide there, a coffee tasting session from John Watt's Coffee in Carlisle, story telling and a sing-a-long with actor Robin Simpson (photo), willow weaving and a talk from Great British Sewing Bee contestant Mitch Bridgwater. We were pleased to be able to welcome visitors from Irthington, Hallbankgate, Stapleton and Lees Hill WIs to meetings, as well as being invited as visitors to other WIs in our area.



A great team effort led to us winning 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the Cumberland Show for our 'Into the Woods' display, and we enjoyed taking part in Walton's Community Day in August, sharing a simple papercraft idea.

Our Knit & Natter group meets every month in the tearoom, we are currently making blankets for the charity Cherished Gowns UK (details below, please drop any blankets into the tearoom if you'd like to help our effort) and there are always at least a couple of us to be found in the tearoom each Friday from 10am if you ever fancy a chat over a cuppa! All this, as well as meals out to celebrate member's birthdays and a trip to Theatre by the Lake in Keswick to see 'Brief Encounter' – an action-packed year!

2023 promises to be just as busy, with plans for a dance session, a talk about climbing Everest, Christmas crafting, outings and much more. If you would like to join this friendly, busy group come along to our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm in the Village Hall, we'd love to see you there.

### Can you knit or crochet?



**Size:** 50cm square blankets

**Pattern:** Any that has holes small enough that you can't fit a finger through.

[www.cherishedgowns.org.uk](http://www.cherishedgowns.org.uk)

### We need 2,500 blankets!

**Colour:** White, Pale Pink, Pale Blue

Tel: 01304 201154

# Walton Reading Group

The group meets on **the second Thursday of the month** at 7:00pm in the Old Vicarage Brewery.

All are welcome to join us.

10th November *The Light Between Oceans* by ML Stedman

8th December *Call of the Penguins* by Hazel Prior

12 January *Close to Home* by Heleyne Hammersley.

Local author Heleyne Hammersey will be joining us at our meeting to discuss her detective novel with us.

9 February *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah

9 March To celebrate International Womens' Day (March 8th)

we will be discussing *The World's Wife* by Carol Ann Duffy.

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## Old Vicarage Bar, Walton

### Opening Times – Winter 2022/23

#### October 2022

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 6 – 10pm

#### November 2022

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 6 -10pm

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 6 – 10pm

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 6 – 10pm

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 6 – 10pm

#### December 2022

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 6 – 10pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 6 – 10pm

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 6 – 10pm

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 6 – 10pm

#### January 2023

CLOSED

#### February 2023

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 6 – 10pm

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 6 – 10pm

**SATURDAY 31<sup>st</sup> December 8pm – 12.30pm (with Quiz of the Year 2022)**

# Make your garden a haven for wildlife throughout winter

*(Some tips from Walton resident, Adam Reynolds.)*

Gardening and wildlife make perfect partners and more and more people are discovering the benefits of gardening in a nature friendly way. Your garden may seem insignificant, but there are 700,000 hectares of private gardens in Britain that's more than the total area of all the official nature reserves combined! Interlinked wildlife gardens can create green corridors through the village connecting with the wider countryside beyond.

1. Feeding the birds - Autumn and winter sees growing numbers of birds using gardens in the village as food becomes harder to find elsewhere. Good quality suet rich food such as fat balls, peanuts or sunflower hearts are enjoyed by a wide range of species and don't forget to keep bird baths topped up. Good hygiene is very important so clean feeders regularly.

2. Don't be too tidy - Most people tidy their gardens in the autumn and take this to the extreme, removing most of the shelter for wildlife. Try to leave the majority of the tidying up until early spring as many beneficial insects overwinter in the dried stems of perennials and birds will feed on the seed heads, while butterfly and moth larva hide in the leaf litter.

3. Plant a native tree or hedge - Winter is the best time to add a tree or hedge to the garden bare-rooted whips can be purchased at low cost from October to March. Trees suitable for small to medium gardens include Rowan, crabapple, or hawthorn.

4. Put up a bird box - Winter may seem like strange time for putting up a nest box but birds will start looking for suitable nest sites as early as January. Many species also roost in nest boxes during the cold winter nights.

5. Plan for next year - Winter nights are the perfect time to plan ways on improving your garden for next year - why not add a meadow a log pile or build the wildlife pond you've always wanted!





Marsh tit. We are very lucky in Walton to have this red listed bird visiting gardens as it is one of the fastest declining UK species, numbers falling by 80%.



Tree sparrow. Also a red listed species numbers have fallen by 93% since 1970. A small colony of these fantastic birds can be found around the village.

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## Is your chimney in need of cleaning?

It is recommended that you should have your chimney swept at least once a year to keep it clean as possible and prevent build up of deposits that become harder to remove the longer you leave it. Doing this allows the chimney to work more effectively and safely.

I am a small, independent chimney sweep based in Walton CA8 2DJ and am looking to provide a quality sweeping service within our local community. I provide Chimney and Flue cleaning for wood-burning stoves and small open fires using Power Sweep rods. Work is carried out under appropriate national standards.

Your Chimney / flue liner will be cleaned from top to bottom, a free smoke evacuation test will be carried out and all soot taken away. No mess left. No call out charges.

For enquiries call : **Gary on 07831 379424 Mon-Fri 10-5pm**

## **St Mary's Church**

Sunday 6th November 2022 11am - Methodist Holy Communion

Sunday 4th December 2022 11am - Holy Communion

Sunday 13th November 2022 10:50am - Remembrance Service

Sunday 20th November 2022 11am - Morning worship

Sunday 18th December 2022 11am - Carol Service

Sunday 25th December 2022 11am - Christmas Day Service

## **Quiz Night**

Saturday 19th November 6:45 for 7pm in the Village Hall.

With a Pea and Pie Supper £10, and raffle.

Teams of 4-6 (you can be added to a team).

To book, please contact Phil Knowles on 016977 41232.

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## **Border Rambler bus service to Brampton**

From 5th October Walton has a bus service to Brampton on Wednesdays.

The route is via Gilsland and allows passengers about 2 hours in Brampton before returning by the reverse route. The service is operated by volunteers.

The [timetable](#) can be downloaded from the Walton Parish Council website.

For further information contact the Scheduled Bus Services Team on 0333 240 69 65 (Option 1) Monday to Friday 08:30 to 17:00.

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# Walton and Lees Hill CE Primary School News

The summer break has given us all the opportunity to recharge and refresh, ready for the new year ahead, but as ever, things have been busy around school. This time, the work has been taking place in our fabulous school grounds. We are delighted to have a new outdoor classroom, positioned on our school field. The classroom benefits from all facilities, including water and electricity and will



be used primarily by the children in nursery, but all children in school will get the opportunity to work in there each week. The classroom is in the finishing stages of completion and we are very excited to start working in there and to be able to have an official opening. The new building will also be available for public hire, as a small space for community use. Ideal for meetings and children's birthday parties. Do let us know if you're interested in using this space, our school hall or our school grounds.



The children have all settled back into the new academic year really well. They were all eager to see friends again and to be learning together again. Our topic this term is 'Beneath our feet'. This has included learning about the creatures we



find around our school grounds, different materials that we can find locally and what impact the Romans had on our local area. We enjoyed a visit to Birdoswald at the end of September, which included a walk to Gilsland, to follow in the footsteps of Roman soldiers.

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Some children have also enjoyed local walks, to look for signs of autumn and geographical features in our local area.



We have two afterschool clubs running this term, with a focus on healthy living and learning. The focus of sports club is cricket and our new 'supper club' is a big hit with the children and their families. The children have taken home meals, including vegetable korma and fruit kebabs with a yoghurt and maple syrup dip. The pear flapjack was a big hit with children, parents and staff! I think they will be making that again.

As we near the end of this half term, we have given our thoughts and prayers to harvest time. The children in nursery have linked this to farming and had visits from Ruben's calf and tractor! These were exciting opportunities for everyone and we enjoyed welcoming them to school.



To celebrate harvest this year, we joined with Walton parish, to celebrate harvest in St Mary's church on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. The church was beautifully decorated and it was lovely to join with parishioners to share in the celebrations. The children from school shared readings, prayers and the hymn Autumn Days. We are looking forward to returning to church for the Remembrance Day service on 13<sup>th</sup> November.



The Friday following the service, the whole school returned to church to make up some harvest parcels to deliver to members of the community. These were very well received and we noticed lots of smiley faces when we visited people and gave our gifts. Thank you for the kind words we have received following our deliveries. This helped us to know how much our generosity was appreciated.

This month, we have been able to join together again with other local church schools to celebrate RE week. The theme this year was parables and I'm sure you will guess from that photograph that the parable that our school chose to focus on was 'The Lost Sheep'. They junior children shared their presentation of the story in Lanercost Priory on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October.



To help enhance experiences for all children in school, we are looking for some helpers from the community, from people who would have some time to spare to come into school to listen to children read or to help out in our school garden. This can be any amount of time that you, or someone you know would be willing to offer. It could be a one-off session or something more regular. Please contact school for more information. We would love your help.

Our Thursday afternoon toddler group continues every Thursday afternoon 1.15pm-2.45pm, term time. Please see our school [Facebook page](#) for regular updates on our toddler group.

### **Are you looking for a venue for a meeting, party or sports activity?**

Ask us about hiring our spacious hall, with kitchen and toilet facilities and disabled access.

Call 016977 2577 or e-mail [admin@leeshill.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@leeshill.cumbria.sch.uk)

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### **New-style stamps**

As you will have noticed all new stamps have barcodes attached. Please **don't remove the barcode** when fixing them to your envelopes. Old stamps without barcodes can be used on mail until 31st January 2023. The Royal Mail website has more details.

Walton Post Office will be open as normal Monday and Wednesday mornings 9.30am - 12 noon but **closed Monday 26th December until Wednesday 4th January 2023.**

# Hospice at Home Christmas Tree Collection

Hospice at Home Carlisle and North Lakeland will once again be collecting real Christmas Trees in January 2023 to raise vital funds to help local patients and their families.

Volunteers and business supporters will set off early on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to collect trees from Carlisle, Penrith, Longtown, Brampton, and Wigton – locations which the Clinical Services Team of Hospice at Home visit to provide vital care and support to patients at the end stages of life. Members of the public are requested to book their tree in for collection, and all donations given towards this are gratefully received.

If anyone has a van and would like to help with the collection this year, please do contact us on 01768 210719 – we are always looking for more helpers.

Tree collections can be booked from 15<sup>th</sup> November until the 8<sup>th</sup> January by visiting [www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree](http://www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree)

## Parish Council

### **The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer is:**

Allan Dawes, Hillcrest, Cannon Field, Roadhead, Carlisle, CA6 6NB  
[clerk@waltonparish.co.uk](mailto:clerk@waltonparish.co.uk)

### **Councillors**

Graham Shaw (Chair)	07948 431 031
T Alan Armstrong (Vice Chair)	(016977) 3164
Rodney Hodgson	07885 272 030
Brian Hogg	(016977) 2153
Tommy Mark	(016977) 3483
Steve Matthews	(016977) 45414
Thomas Mounsey	(016977) 41589
William Wilkinson	07703 644 036

This and previous newsletters can be viewed or downloaded as pdf files via the 'Archive' section of the Walton Parish website:

[www.waltonparish.co.uk](http://www.waltonparish.co.uk)

