Thank you to all who helped with the tree planting event, we had a great turn out and the trees went in very quickly. It was wonderful to see so many children there, and we can all look forward to watching the area grow over the coming years. Take a look at everything that is happening inside this newsletter & please feel free to get in touch if you have any comments or suggestions. Naomi

Hello.

Save the Date!

You are invited to join us at the Annual Meeting of the Parish on Friday 17th April

From 7pm at the village hall
There will be free refreshments, a chance to socialise, and the opportunity to look both back over the last year and the Greening Walton Project, but also forward at potential projects for the future - bring your ideas and comments.

Keep your eye on the village notice boards and website for full details of the event and displays

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE
Neighbourhood Watch
By Bob Musgrave

The Police are reminding people to be on their guard against telephone fraudsters following incidents in Somerset.

One person was scammed out of £5000 by the heartless fraudsters but two people thwarted the scammers by cutting the callers off. The latest incidents appear to have been targeting people living in the Chard area - particularly the elderly and vulnerable, although they could easily try other areas. We want people to be vigilant and on their guard against telephone fraudsters.

In the latest incident the scammers posed as officers from the Metropolitan Police, claiming that the victim’s grandson had been arrested for using a cloned copy of their bank card, encouraging the victim to confirm their bank card details.

In another call they claimed that there was a major investigation into the victim’s bank and local post office, involving counterfeit money. He was asked to support the investigation by withdrawing cash and checking the serial numbers of the notes. They claimed it was fake cash and said a courier would be sent to collect the counterfeit notes for forensic examination. In a third incident the potential victim thwarted the scammer by stopping the phone call.

Neither the police nor the banks will ask you for banking details or PIN numbers on the phone. Similarly, they would never send a so-called ‘courier’ to collect bank cards or money. Our message is - don’t discuss your finances with anyone who calls you out of the blue, even if they claim to be a police officer or a representative from a bank fraud department. Genuine callers will be happy for you to make an appointment to visit them at a bank branch or police station. They will never ask you to withdraw cash on their behalf; arrange for cash to be collected by a courier; ask for details about your bank card; or ask for the PIN on your card.

If you know someone who may be vulnerable to this type of offence, please speak to them and share our crime prevention tips and remind them of the threat from telephone fraudsters.

People who receive a call on their landline and are asked to contact their local police station or bank to verify the caller’s details ideally need to put the receiver down and not touch it for five minutes, just in case the fraudster has kept the line open. Ensure you have a dialling tone before re-using. Ideally use another phone such as a mobile phone or a neighbour’s phone and use 101 to verify the call.

We would also appeal to taxi drivers who are asked to collect parcels - especially from the elderly - to be vigilant and contact us if they are suspicious. If you believe you have been scammed by a telephone caller, please contact 101, quoting reference 5219299839.

Fruit Trees...

Following on from the recent community event that created two new hedgerows at the Allotment field on East Mead Lane, [see page 4] a number of fruit trees are going to be planted.

One of the new hedge rows is alongside, and will shelter, an area of the field that is not suitable to extend the allotments into. The parish council have purchased fruit trees to plant in this area. It is hoped that this, as well as the addition of seating, will create a further community area within the village - a small community orchard.

This is part of the Greening Walton project - grant funded by the HPC community fund and the Somerset community foundation.

Footpath Maintenance

If you have concerns regarding footpaths in or around the village - like problems with stiles or paths being overgrown - then please contact:

Cllr. SIMON LOADER
simon.loader1@tiscali.co.uk
Or leave a message with the Parish Clerk
Helen 07399 040 667
Litter Picking...

The autumn litter pick was not as well attended as usual but the volunteers who came were very enthusiastic!

A big thank you to these two who took time out of their day [that included dance competitions] to help keep Walton Tidy.

Keep your eyes open for the date of the next family litter pick and come join in.

Bus Stop Bin
There have been problems with the emptying of the bin at the Bus Stop on Main Street opposite the junction with South Street. Council has been in regular contact with Neighbourhood Services at Mendip to get this sorted out - hopefully by the time you are reading this normal service will have been resumed.

Come be Social!

Twenty two of us from the Meet & Greet and Knit & Natter groups sat down on the 11th December to a lovely lunch at the Royal Oak to celebrate Christmas.

The Meet & Greet team meet on the first Wednesday of every month and the Knit & Natter meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Both start at 2pm and run until 4pm in Walton Village Hall lounge.

You can bring any craft with you to the Knit & Natter [3rd Wednesday of the month]. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet someone will be there who can teach you. Or if you just want to chat then that's OK. There is no charge for the Meet & Greet but a small charge of £1 for the Knit & Natter. Tea & a cake or biscuit are included.

We would love you to drop in and say hello at both or either event. You can stay for the whole 2 hours or a shorter time, it is up to you. Make it your new resolution to give it a try.

Happy New Year
The family Tree planting back at the end of November was a great success with people of all ages coming together to plant 425 trees creating two new hedge rows at the allotment field in East Mead Lane. This was a real community event which will have a lasting impact.

It was a chill and windy afternoon but no rain! The warmly dressed volunteers took only an hour and a half to complete their task which included putting protective wraps on all the saplings to give them some protection. A number of varieties were planted including hazel, blackthorn, crab apple, elder, rowan and holly. Information to help you identify these and other twigs and saplings can be found on the Woodland Trust page www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives

Jacki Hargreaves from the Woodland Trust and Bo Walsh, the Mendip tree officer, were there to help with a ‘how to’ introduction being provided at the start. The final tree was planted by one of our enthusiastic younger volunteers & certificates were awarded to all the younger members of the ‘Tree Team’ as a thank you.

All the trees were provided free of charge by the Woodland Trust www.woodlandtrust.org.uk
New Pavement...

Work to link the existing pavement in Asney road with the public footpath alongside the playing field to the school, village hall and play area is due to start in March. It is hoped that these improvements will help provide an easier and safer route for residents to use away from the busy A39.

Removing the need to walk in the road and negotiate local traffic is a move to encourage more people to walk around the village rather than drive.

The works may involve a short closure of Asney Road.

Dates For your diary:
- Leap Year Concert - Friday 28th February at the church from 7pm
- WI next meeting - 12th March 7.30pm at the village Hall
- Soup Lunch - Saturday 21st March from midday to 2pm at the church
- Annual Meeting of the parish - 17th April 7pm at the Village Hall

Regular Village Events:
- Church coffee mornings which are every Thursday at 10.30-11.30.
- Meet & Greet - village Hall- 1st Wednesday of every month in the village hall lounge 2pm to 4pm
- Knit & Natter - village hall- 3rd Wednesday of every month in the village hall lounge 2pm to 4pm
- Men’s Shed - Hempitts Farm Hempitts Road Tues 9am to 1pm & Thurs 12.30pm to 4.30pm
- Walton Textiles Group - village hall - 2nd and 4th Monday of every month between 1.30pm and 3.30pm
- Short Mat Bowls - village hall - every Monday evening at 7.30pm

Have your say about providing care closer to home in Somerset

Health and care services in Somerset aim to support people to live independent, healthier lives by having the right services in the right place for their needs, available at the right time and delivered by the right people. Everyone’s input, ideas and suggestions are vital to helping them make sure that we have the right services in the right place. We are sharing with everyone the reasons why current services need to change and the challenges faced in continuing to run them. Using all the feedback received, a number of ways that health and care services could be delivered differently will be developed. There will be public consultation about these potential options in the future. what you think about their ideas so far? You can read the full engagement document on their website at www.fitformyfuture.org.uk or contact them by email somccg.fitformyfuture@nhs.net or telephone 01935 384119.
This engagement programme runs until 12 April 2020.
We have had a busy but wonderful time over Christmas. Our Christmas services were very well attended and the Church looked lovely thanks to the team that turn up trumps every time.

We started the new year with a quiz evening and we are very grateful to all who supported this event.

On Friday 28th February there will be a leap year concert in Church. 7.00 for a 7.30 start. All sorts of entertainment plus a time to join in some singing. £3.00 which includes tea, coffee, cake and biscuits.

Saturday 21st March will be a Soup lunch again in Church. 12.00 noon to 2pm. Soup and roll will be £4.00. Cake, tea and coffee will also be available.

We will be selling squares for £1.00 to win a bottle of Courvoisier Cognac. This was donated to us for a raffle by the family of Pat Moxey.

So many of you will remember Pat who lived in the village for a great many years before retiring to Street. Pat was involved in many aspects of village life. She was a founder member of the indoor bowls club and loved to support the village hall events as well as supporting the Church in every way. Dear Pat passed away on the 15th December and will be missed greatly by us all.

Usual Service Dates -
Our service format stays the same at the moment.

1st Sunday. Taize  2nd Sunday. Communion.  3rd Sunday. Informal songs around the piano. 4th Sunday. Family service. If there is a 5th Sunday this will be a benifice service and rotates between the 4 Churches.

Planning....

A large number of residents turned out to attend the January Parish Council Meeting to voice their opinions regarding the recent planning application in South Street for a proposed development of 37 dwellings. The District & County Councillors also attended.

To ensure everyone was able to participate, the meeting relocated from the lounge to the main hall. After a presentation regarding the development, residents were able to raise their objections and concerns with a representative of the company submitting the application. Following this exchange of views and discussion, Walton Parish Council recommended to Mendip District Council that this application be REFUSED mainly on the grounds of Highways safety concerns, but also raising issues regarding water pressure, flooding and environmental damage. The Parish Council will follow the progress of the application through the Mendip District Council planning process and where possible, continue to give voice to the objections raised.
During the last three evening meetings we have learnt more about both the work of the Dogs Trust and the History of Gardening 1603-1837 as well as enjoying our annual Christmas party.

In November we were represented in the congregation taking part in the Remembrance Service in Walton Church & some members helped as stewards or performed a skit during the W.I. County Annual Meeting in Taunton.

Socially, we joined Glastonbury W.I. in celebrating their 40th anniversary & have hosted the Group Concert where seven W.I.s each performed. Walton’s contribution, ‘The Fairy on the Christmas Tree’ was written by two of our members and performed by eleven dressed in different coloured fairy costumes made by the craft group.

Two popular events in December were an ‘Explore Your Local Area’ guided tour which took place inside & outside Bishops Palace during their ‘Christmas at the Palace’ event and a pantomime trip by bus to the Bishop Hippodrome to see ‘Dick Whittington’ starring Shane Richie. As usual at this time of year our singers had been busy rehearsing & performing both for the residents of Northleaze and joining the choir at the Annual County Carol Service held in Wells Cathedral. Between Christmas and New Years Eve the committee ran a home kurling session in Walton Village Hall followed, in January, by an away gig for Woolavington W.I.

Our regular pastimes of table tennis, craft and ‘Ladies who Lunch’ have now resumed after the Christmas break. The skittles team has continued to progress well in the W.I. County Cup with a win against Coxley by sixteen pins in a match played at Pennard.

In January our annual meal, held this year in the Royal Oak, was enjoyed by thirty-eight members who took over the dining room for the very convivial evening. The following week during a charity walk in Wells in aid of the ACWW (Country Women of the World) thirteen members learnt more about that city.

For more information regarding our activities please visit our blog [waltonwi.wordpress.com](http://waltonwi.wordpress.com).

Jo Haydon
Parish Councillors...

Madam Chairman - Cllr. Naomi Johnson

Vice Chairman - Cllr. Richard Crossman

Cllr. Simon Loader

Cllr. Bob Musgrave

Cllr. John Harvey

Cllr. Bob Collins

Cllr. Callum Child

Please contact any councillors or the Clerk if you are interested in joining the Parish Council & representing your community.

ADVERTISING IN WALTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council has advertising in the village newsletter in order to assist with funding it and, hopefully, inform you about the wide range of services and skills that are locally available to residents of Walton. Council is keen to ensure that advertising does not take over your newsletter - therefore the amount of space for adverts will be limited. The process for advertising is:

- Adverts will initially be for ¼ page, black & white and will be placed within the newsletter as seen fit by the editor.
- The cost to be £15 per edition or £50 for the year (4 editions)
- Consideration will be given to requests for larger (½ page at £20 per edition £60 for the year) or smaller (£10 per edition £35 for the year)
- ADVERTS MUST BE WITH THE PARISH CLERK IN TIME FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEWSLETTER AT THE LATEST [eg at October parish council meeting for publication within the November newsletter] and be accompanied by a CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO WALTON PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT.

This newsletter comes out in November, February, May and August at present and currently varies between eight and twelve pages of village news, events and information. It is distributed to every home within the parish of Walton, which is currently around 500 homes.

Contact: clerk@waltonpc.org

Helen Moore
Walton Parish Clerk
C/o 21 Bere lane
Glastonbury
BA6 8BD
clerk@waltonpc.org
07399 040 667

Dates of future Parish Council meetings - you are welcome!
7pm at the village hall on FRIDAYS:
March 13th 2020
April 17th 2020
May 15th 2020
June 12th 2020
July 10th 2020
August 14th 2020

If you want to submit an article for inclusion in the next newsletter please send it to the parish clerk - clerk@waltonpc.org.
The deadline for submissions is 30th April 2020