

Cross Tree Chronicle

May 2017



Walton-in-Gordano viewed from the Common
Ben Edwards

Editors: Kevin and Emma Edwards



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01275 217560



2 Sandstone Cottages

A note from the Editors

This is the month when we look forward to the opportunity to celebrate the good work of all the organisations in the village. The PARISH MEETING is on Monday 8th May at 8pm where everyone is welcome to SPEAK and share their VIEWS. Do come and hear what a vibrant community you live in.

If you have any photos of the village we would love to see them and share them in the Chronicle, just email them to me.

The phone has now been removed from the phone box opposite the tree but it is still being used by the community for local magazines and Chronicle deliveries.

Thank you for the lovely display of spring flowers at the bench on the bay, really appreciated by everyone. Speaking of benches, the bench which we gave to the church for the community it is still under repair as there is more rot than we first thought, we hope to have it back in position soon.

Spotlight On Taggart House B&B



Andrew and Rachel Francis moved into the village in 2011 and after a few years of hard work bringing the garden back to life they undertook a major renovation project to bring Taggart House up to date with individually designed rooms and eco-friendly ground source heating.

They opened Taggart House B&B on 14th February 2015 offering a friendly, very high quality bed and breakfast experience. They have two B&B rooms and have recently added a Shepherd Hut which is set in the woodland garden alongside Walton Brook.

The breakfast is made from locally sourced produce; bacon and sausages from the Butchers Block in Portishead and eggs from Richard and Elaine at Church Farm.

Visitors to Taggart House come from all over the UK and abroad (Australia, South Africa, USA, Canada, Italy, France & Germany so far!) and they are always busy. Walton-in-Gordano provides a lovely base for guests to explore the area and many are surprised by what's available nearby.

Hester the dog is always happy to welcome new guests and old friends.

You can find out more at www.taggarthouse.co.uk

Walton Common (Dave Horlick)

This time of year we can look forward to seeing the first of our orchids. Hiding away on paths around the reserve are a few spikes of the Early Purple Orchid. I know of a few places where there can be seen, but the easiest to find are on the path at the far east end of the reserve. Orchids have a special fascination for most of us, certainly me - although I'm not quite sure why.

The Green Hairstreak butterflies I mentioned in the last Chronicle turned up a little early this year ... but should be on the wing for a good few weeks yet.

The regular volunteer group have put a halt to most activities now. In fact, we have been working away at Prior's Wood for a couple of weeks clearing up some dangerous trees and widening paths. We'll be back on Walton Common soon enough, carrying out various wildlife surveys and keeping paths clear.

Do let me know if you find anything interesting on the Common. All sorts of birds have a habit of stopping off on their migration at this time of year.

W.I. News (Rosemary Tucker)

At our meeting this month we welcome Emma Brittan where she talks about "being a radio presenter". Those of us who listen to Radio Bristol in the morning probably feel we know Emma already! The competition is for a glass ornament.

Don't forget our trip to the Royal Mint at Llantrisant on Sunday 11th June, cost £33, which includes an evening meal of roast pork or beef at the Swan Inn at Almondsbury. We also visit St. Fagans in the afternoon. If you would like to join us please phone or email me or pop a note through my door (The Chapel, Walton Street) with a £10 non-refundable deposit, cheques payable to Valley Ladies.

We are having a stall at the Village Fete again this year, pick a card but themed with food and drink, any donations to me please. Thank you.

Speedwatch (Rachel Dickinson)

The community Speedwatch has taken a break this month as we are short of volunteers. If you have an hour to spare please contact me and volunteer so we can keep this important task going.

In the meantime, we are in the process of obtaining signs to put up around the village to remind drivers that this is a Speedwatch area and the speed limit is 30 miles per hour. Our thanks to the social committee who have agreed to finance the cost of the signs.

Social Committee (Andrew Francis)

I am the Chair of the Walton-in-Gordano Social Club and I am appealing for your help and support.

The Social Committee consists of 9 members of our community who give their time to organise and host a large number of social events in the village such as the Cheese and Wine Quiz Night, free Coffee Mornings, the forthcoming Swing Dance Night and the annual Village Fete, which this year takes place on 15th July.

The fete takes a huge amount of organisation; these things simply don't happen by chance and the planning for the fete starts almost to the day that the previous event finishes. We absolutely rely upon people in the village volunteering to run stalls, serve teas, host events, undertake the mundane tasks such as taking entry money and marshalling cars and people. Every year fewer and fewer people give their time and donate prizes for the raffle etc.

This year we are really struggling to get the help we need! A lack of volunteers, helpers and donations means that there is a danger that the fete will not go ahead. I am making a heartfelt plea asking for **you** to help.

Please volunteer – every little helps. Contact me on 01275 316970 or Emma Edwards on 01275 217560 and help us to keep this significant annual event in our community going!

Parish Council

Meetings: The **Parish Council Meeting/AGM** takes place in the Village Hall on May 8th at 7pm - rather than the usual 7.30pm. This is so that he **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (APM)** can take place at 8pm, also in the Village Hall. The APM will be as vital and diverse as attendees choose to make it, as it a free-wheeling discussion forum for all topics - Broadband, Speed Limits and SpeedWatch, Cross Tree Chronicle... etc... etc... - that people wish to raise. We are lucky that Sarah Friend, our new Village Agent, will be able to attend and introduce us to her work in our local parishes.

Police: The Police UK website, supposedly now our source of up-to-date crime information, continues to list incidents two months behind the event and provides no follow-up information. Our area is blessed with good local police support... and mercifully little crime...which makes the difference.

Village Hall: Cllrs Dickinson and Wilyman have volunteered to act as the Parish Council Representative Members on the Village Hall Committee.

Broadband: Recent roadworks in the Village were to put in ducting for a fibre loop to link provision at Walton Bay back to Portishead...but not to provision for the Village through which it is passing! The anticipated broadband workshop date continues to await the appointment of a main contractor.

Visit waltoningordanopc.org.uk to see minutes and find out more about the Council.

Support local markets!

Sunday Market:

Hill Road, Clevedon - Sunday 7th May, 10am – 2pm

White Hart Producers Market:

White Hart, Weston-in-Gordano - Saturday 20th May, 9:30am – 2pm

Flea, Vintage, Food and Craft Market:

Court House Farm, Portishead –Saturday 28th May, 10am – 2pm

St. Paul's Church (Sue Betts)

Please see "Dates for Your Diary" on page 8 for all event details.

Easter: Thank you to all who joined us for our Easter Festival, it was a lovely way to catch up with all our friends. And another thank you to all our flower arrangers, the Church looked lovely for Easter. If you would like to sign up on our flower rota please put your name on the list in the Church porch.

Helen James: It's great to welcome Helen back with her own special mix of acoustic guitar 'café music' at our Welcome In at the beginning of May.

Rogation Sunday: Something a bit different for our Rogation service this year. Our morning service will be followed by a picnic (weather permitting) overlooking the beautiful Gordano Valley. Thanks to Alison and Graham Stott we are getting out the picnic tables and chairs at the top of the Manor drive so that after we have sung 'For the beauty of the earth' we can sit and enjoy our wonderful scenery with limited 'rogating' just from the church to the driveway. All you need to bring is a plate of picnic food to share all the rest will be provided.

THE ALIENS HAVE LANDED!: Watch out! The rumour has it that we are going to have some very strange visitors on Monday 29th May. Would you like to become the next Dr. Who and join in with some alien hunting around the village? If so come along to the Church and pick up your entry form for just £1. Refreshments will be available all day including Brodie's Bacon Butties, cream teas during the afternoon and some sideshows and stalls too. Auntie Emma's Sweet Shop will also be open at 2 Sandstone Cottages.

If you like to create an alien then packs will be available from the back of the Church from the beginning of May for children of primary school age. There are lots of prizes up for grabs; for the best alien creators and for the best alien hunter so dust off your sonic screwdriver at the end of the month!

An Evening of Summer Song: On Saturday 3rd June, at 7.30pm in the Church, we have an evening of Summer Song and Recitation of poems and readings. This features Danniella Zamparelli, an opera singer and the grand-daughter of Rene and Bob Truby. Tickets are £5.00, available from Brodie and Sue or at the Welcome In. This will also include refreshments of a glass of Pimms and nibbles, including chocolates to enjoy during the performances. Funds from ticket sales will go to our Church, and there will be a collection to go to a charity of Danniella's choice.

Village Directory

Parish Councillors (<http://www.waltoningordanopc.org.uk/>)

Don Hill (Clerk)	clerk@waltoningordanopc.org.uk 01934 835578 / 07774 125578
Brain Cannell (Chairman)	brian.cannell@waltoningordanopc.org.uk 01275 874291
Mike Ralston (Vice-chair)	mike.ralston@waltoningordanopc.org.uk 01275 872741
Rachel Dickinson	rachel.dickinson@waltoningordanopc.org.uk 07813 853921
Nigel Wilyman	nigel.wilyman@waltoningordanopc.org.uk 01275 873652

Village Hall Chairman

Deb Tovey	deb.tovey8@gmail.com / 01275 879983
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St Paul's Church Churchwardens

Sue Betts	roybetts7@btinternet.com / 01275 848645
Brodie Lyon	01275 879081

W.I. Vice President

Rosemary Tucker	rosemarytucker444@btinternet.com 07795 510001
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Community Speedwatch Coordinator

Rachel Dickinson	07813 853921
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Village Agent

Sarah Friend	sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk 07422 078548 / 01275 888 803 (office)
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Walton Common Volunteer Warden (Avon Wildlife)

Dave Horlick	david.horlick@btinternet.com
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Social Committee Secretary

Emma Edwards	Contact details on front page
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Village Hall Bookings, Caretaker & Gardening

Bob Baldwin	rjbbwig@gmail.com / 01275 879268
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Parish Notice Board Key Holders

Graham Matthews	01275 873408 (Walton Bay)
Bob Baldwin	As above (Walton Village)

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

Elaine Kent	evkent@talktalk.net / 01275 872476 (Walton Street)
Bob Baldwin	As above (Clevedon Road)

Dates for Your Diary		
Date	Event	Time
Every Saturday	Gordano Valley Art Group, Village Hall	1:30 - 3:30pm
Saturday 6 th	Welcome In with Helen James, St. Paul's Church *	10.30am onwards
Sunday 7 th	Morning Prayer, St. Paul's Church	11.15am
Monday 8 th	Parish Council AGM and Meeting, Village Hall	7pm
Monday 8 th	Walton-in-Gordano Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall *	8pm
Thursday 18 th	W.I., Village Hall *	2:30pm
Sunday 14 th	Holy Communion, St. Paul's Church	11.15am
Sunday 21 st	ROGATION with picnic, St Paul's Church *	11:15am
Sunday 28 th	Holy Communion	11.15am
Monday 29 th	THE ALIENS HAVE LANDED! St. Pauls Church and around the village *	from 10.30am

* More details in the information sheet under the relevant section

Walton Social Committee presents

SWING INTO SUMMER

Friday 23rd June

7.30pm, £10 adults (children free)

Walton In Gordano Village Hall

Dancing to Steve Doig & Capitol Swing

BYO Drinks & Snacks

Contact EMMA at crosstreestores@talktalk.net

Copy for the May issue to be submitted by Monday 22nd May