

CROSS TREE CHRONICLE

Walton-in-Gordano Village Magazine

May 2019



**Churchwardens (L-R) Sue Betts, Brodie Lyon
and Sheri Russell**

Editors: Kevin and Emma Edwards



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Did You Know? – Walton National School situated by the Parish Church (1816 – 1931)

The school was built on glebe land given by the Miles family, overseen by the church. This was the first school in the Gordano Valley.

School fees of twopence or threepence a week was often gained by haymaking, primrose picking, beating at the shoot or potato planting. Over the years, loss of household income decreased the pupil attendance as children were often kept at home to work the land as the village was predominantly agricultural.

School mistresses would preside in School House next to the church. The school had 20 teachers over its lifetime, many only staying a couple a years' at a time. The first teacher was Mrs Rachel Wake and the last was Miss Theakstone in 1930. One of the longest serving was Miss Theodora Shaw 1915 – 1929.

To encourage teachers to stay in 1905 a grant was offered to repair School House, in 1906 provide a new bath and 1907 the extravagance of a new carpet.

The school also saw some of this funding, a school garden was created, and the segregated playground was tarpaved (tar).

The school mistresses table is now the Alter Table in the Parish Church.

Unfortunately, due to decreasing numbers, and the proximity of All Saints School in East Clevedon, the school shut its doors on 3rd August 1931 and eventually became a private residence.

From the school log book:

Dec 8th 1915: Shortly after 11am a British bi-plane appeared circling above the school and village. The children were taken out to watch it. Later due to some stoppage of the engine it descended below castle hill, parents brought word and children were taken to view the aeroplane.

April 21st 1920: As a ship was driven on the rocks near Walton Bay last night, the whole school was taken up at 10am to see it, and the poem 'The Lee Shore' was read upon return. The wreck will be used as a subject for composition.

June 22nd 1921: 10 children have been absent all day having been taken to Weston-super-Mare on Sir Charles motor lorry.



Community Speedwatch (Kevin Edwards)

Last month was fairly quiet with just one session. John and Julian were out on Thursday 11th April and spotted 17 vehicles out of 475 exceeding the speed limit with the fastest travelling at 51mph – let's hope receiving a Speedwatch letter will make that driver think before they drive through the village again at that speed!

As we only have a few active members of the scheme we really need more volunteers for Speedwatch to continue. If you can spare just one hour a month then please get in touch with me – my email and phone number is in the village directory on page 7.



W.I. News (Rosemary Brace)

Our May meeting is in the Village Hall on Thursday 16th at 2:30 pm.

Sarah Harris will talk to us about “Windmills”. She is such a good speaker and always has us laughing, I am sure this talk will be no different. The competition is for a Windmill, no surprise there, in any medium, made by ourselves.

There are still some spaces left for our coach outing to Morwellham Quay. If you would like details please contact myself or Barbara Handcock.

Social Club (Barbara Wilyman)

By the time you are reading this, at the beginning of May, the Social Club will have held their April meeting. Now we are mostly planning for this year's Village Fete and will start advertising soon. Much is already done – the vintage cars will be there again; the Weston, Clevedon and Portishead Light Railway have agreed to take a table, the Birds of Prey (which were so interesting last year will be back too), tea & cakes, the hog roast, a band and a new children's entertainer – a long list and lots for everyone! This year we hope to add more games for the little children. We had a fantastic number of volunteers offering their help, thank you. There are so many things to do that if you feel you would like to join us – we need you! If you would like to help, please get in touch. Please everyone remember the date - JULY 13th

for making cakes and raffle prizes, bottles and bric a brac donations for the stalls etc.

We hope our allocation of flowers from North Somerset Council will arrive in May and we will be planting them out around the village for the summer months.

Gardening Club (Alison Stott)

Primroses and primulas, bluebells both English and Spanish of blue and white, yellow broom and Kerria japonica, forget-me-knots and pasqueflowers all brought the ubiquitous Spring colours of blue and yellow to our meeting just before Easter. On a warm sunny afternoon, we took advantage of strolling around the host's garden viewing the many different tulips including doubles (often referred to as peony type) and small perennial species tulips planted with muscari amongst roses. Several prunus trees were still flowering and the Prunus Taihaku (the Great White Cherry Tree) was particularly full of heavy, scented blossom. All in all, a lovely way to spend an afternoon.

Village Hall (Deb Tovey)

Following the recent AGM, the new committee comprises:

- Deb Tovey (Chair and Secretary)
- Sue Betts (Treasurer and representative of the Social Committee)
- Alison Stott (elected Committee Member)
- Rachel Dickinson (representative of the Parish Council)
- Shirley Hammond (representative of the WI)

We thought it may be of interest if we let you know the range of activities that go on at the Hall. These vary from the monthly Parish Council and W.I. meetings, to musical events such as band practice and dancing, hobbies such as art classes and table tennis, and training sessions such as dog training and circus skills training. On top of these, we are also a popular venue for parties, wedding receptions, baptismal celebrations, etc.

Please contact Bob Baldwin if you are planning an event this year – it would be lovely to see the Hall used by more people in the Village.



St. Paul's Church (Sue Betts)

Brodie: Thanks to your generosity we have been able to give Brodie an overwhelming number of gifts as she retires from her role as churchwarden. This included her very own twinned toilet. Brodie's request was that the collection from her celebration service went to Bloodwise, the blood cancer research charity and we were able to send £116.50. Thank you for turning up to 'Fill the pews for Brodie' I know she truly appreciated it.

Easter: What a lovely weekend! Our Easter Fayre raised £255.30 for our church funds and what a lovely occasion with lots of chatting and laughing. It's just great to get together and have time to catch up with everyone's news. Thank you to all who support us and a big thank you to all our helpers. This was followed by Easter Day with a lively service lead by Sister Anita.

All in a Country Garden: Our Bank Holiday fun is all themed around our lovely gardens.

To start with there are three gardens in the village to explore, tickets available from the church, organized by our Social Committee. One of the gardens at Taggart House will have the added attraction of hidden garden animals to find.

Then there is our children's competition and this year it's all about flowers. There will be entry forms at the back of the church from the beginning of May; would your children or grandchildren like to join in? These colourful flowers will be displayed all over the village, adding to the lovely flowers already in all the village gardens. All you have to do is go and find as many flowers as you can.

Not everyone has a garden to open to the public but how about taking part in the table top sale. At Hill Cottage they are going to sell all sorts including plants and you will be welcome to say 'hello' to Bob and Jim. If you'd like to take part in the sale you can borrow a table from the Church if you need to and put it up in your garden or driveway or in the churchyard and you can sell whatever you like and the money will be all yours (please give a £5 donation to support the Church) - contact me if you are interested and then I can include you on the Open Gardens map.

Of course, there will be refreshments available all day in the church including Ploughman's lunches and cream teas all sitting in the sunshine -

let's hope. And there will more to see in the church including Emma's amazing Village Archive and church history tours will be able too, there are always new stories about our little church - have you heard the one about Cromwell's troops and their horses? Or the murder in the village? The whole day is going to be a celebration of village life – come and join in!

Parish Council (Don Hill)

Parish Council Election: We can have up to 5 parish councillors: as only the 4 incumbent members were nominated, they automatically became elected members without the need for an election. They will take up office as our elected parish council members on 7th May, but it will be at the Annual Meeting of the Council on May 13th that the paperwork formalising their appointments will be in place. There remains a vacancy for a fifth Parish Councillor: anyone who is interested in filling this vacancy should apply to the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

North Somerset Council Election: Election Day is 2nd May and our polling station is the Village Hall. We will know the outcome of the election by the time of our meetings on May 13th.

Annual Parish Meeting Thursday May 13th at 8pm in the Village Hall: This is an annual statutory event that must take place every spring. Although it is organised on the community's behalf by the Parish Council and is chaired by the Chair of the Council, it is not a parish council meeting, but a meeting of residents of the parish. Anyone who is resident in the parish can attend the meeting and raise matters relating to the parish that they want to give an airing to. Do come along and take part.

Complete Beginners Yoga - No Experience Necessary

Start your journey with Sacred Space yoga at
Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall on Friday 31st May at 6pm.

Forget the commonly held beliefs about not being flexible enough, not fit enough etc etc.

Give yourself an hour a week to restore, recharge and relax. You have nothing to lose but so much to gain.

Any questions drop me message on sacredspaceyogastudio7@gmail.com
or 07704 520149 £5 per class.

Village Diary	
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
St Paul's Church Churchwardens	
Sue Betts	roybetts7@btinternet.com / 01275 848645
Brodie Lyon	01275 879081
W.I. Vice President	
Rosemary Brace	rosemarytucker444@btinternet.com 07795 510001
Community Speedwatch Coordinator	
Kevin Edwards	kevinedwards@talktalk.net / 07909 577255
Village Agent	
Sarah Friend	sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk 07422 078548 / 01275 888 803 (office)
Social Club Chair	
Andrew Francis	ralf.789@sky.com / 01275 316970
Village Hall Bookings, Caretaker & Gardening	
Bob Baldwin	rjbwig@gmail.com / 01275 879268
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 872494 (Walton Street)
Bob Baldwin	As above (Clevedon Road)

Dates for Your Diary		
Date	Event	Time
Thursday 2 nd	Local Elections, Village Hall	7am – 10pm
Saturday 4 th	Welcome In Community Café, St. Paul's Church	10:30am onwards
Sunday 5 th	Come and Join Us service, St. Paul's Church (followed by Bring and Share Lunch)	11:15am
Sunday 12 th	Holy Communion, St. Paul's Church	11:15am
Monday 13 th	Parish Council, followed by Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall *	7:30pm 8pm
Thursday 16 th	W.I. Village Hall *	2:30pm
Sunday 19 th	Morning Prayer, St. Paul's Church	11:15am
Sunday 26 th	Holy Communion, St. Paul's Church	11:15am
Monday 27 th	Open Gardens (BANK HOLIDAY)*	10:30am onwards
Sunday 2 nd June	Rogation Sunday Village Celebration, St. Paul's Church	11:15am

* More details in the information sheet under the relevant section

Recycling Calendar

May:	Rubbish	Recycling & Food Waste	Garden Waste
Tuesday 7 th	✓	✓	✗
Tuesday 14 th	✗	✓	✓
Tuesday 21 st	✓	✓	✗
Tuesday 28 th	✗	✓	✓
June:			
Information not currently available - please check https://forms.n-somerset.gov.uk/Waste/CollectionSchedule			

... for all those little jobs

handyman

local ◀ reliable ▶ affordable

services include: general D.I.Y., minor repairs, garden works, home maintenance, flat pack assembly

contact andy francis

on 07909 704263 / handyandyfrancis@gmail.com

Copy for the June issue to be submitted by Friday 24th May