

BELCHAMP WALTER E-NEWS



The new header reflects the new season – Christmas is coming to Belchamp Walter. The primary purpose of this e-News is to inform residents about activities in the village. Thank you for all the lovely comments, if you have suggestions for additional content please do write by emailing bwalterenews@gmail.com. As always please encourage others to subscribe so that they can get timely updates on village events.

Jan and Monika with guest reporter Lou

RECENT EVENTS

FRIENDS OF BELCHAMP WALTER CHURCH

Wreath Making Workshop

On Saturday 25th November, the Friends of Belchamp Walter Church (FOBWC) ran their first wreath making workshop – given the time of year, of course, the wreaths were Christmas wreaths.

It was a full class and eleven people attended to make the wreaths and one came just for lunch. Superbly lead by Monika with assistance from Jan and Lou everyone who attended made a wreath. The atmosphere in the village hall was great with lots of happy chatter and mellow seasonal music playing away in the background. Monika led everybody stage by stage through the process, using winter greenery that had all been foraged locally. The end results were diverse and fantastic. Most of the participants had never made a wreath before so they were delighted to discover that they too could access their crafty side.

A light lunch of quiches and salad followed by lemon posset and homemade shortbread was served and enjoyed by all with tea and coffee flowing throughout the day.

Some feedback received:

“We thoroughly enjoyed our day, thank you to all of you for your patience and the delicious lunch.”

“Thank you to everyone involved in the wreath making session. I had a brilliant time.”

Here are some of the wreaths made on the day (and a photo of the posset):



And here is a photo of one 'in the wild' after it was taken home.



Wreaths Made to Order

Not content with teaching others to make wreaths, the FOBWC made wreaths to order for those who did not have time to make a wreath but wanted a lovely fresh, bespoke wreath to grace their front doors over the Christmas season. The FOWBC elves (Okay it was Monika, Lou and Jan) met to create the wreaths. These have all been delivered and you should be able to see them gracing village doors.



The FOBWC would like to thank everyone who attended the workshop and everyone who purchased a wreath. Thanks to your generosity we raised almost £700. This money will go towards the upkeep of the fabric of the lovely village church

PCC OF ST MARYS BELCHAMP WALTER

The Christmas Crafting theme continued on Saturday December 2nd. It was a cold and icy day but that didn't stop the keen crafters coming out to make hand crafted Christmas decorations. This time it was Lou who carefully showed people how to make festive decorations with assistance from Pete. There was so much choice, and most chose to make Christmas trees. Monika and Helen took care of the serving coffee and tea throughout and the light lunch of soup and lemon posset (it was popular the week before!).

Again there was wonderful feedback:

“Thank you for sharing so many of your wonderful resources, and for your generous wisdom and expertise.”



Should be a photo of a posset here but they were all eaten before a photo could be taken. Not saying it was Pete's fault.

And here is one in the wild, after it was taken home.



The PCC plans to run future workshops in the New Year. At moment the ideas are

- Essential oils – horse chestnut laundry liquid, tumble dryer balls, face serum and hand cream
- Beading – learn to make a beaded rose
- Easter – fabric egg

Huge thanks to those who attended the workshop. All the funds raised will go towards St Mary's Parish Share – which supports the church and keeps it open for the village as well as the worshipping community.

BELCHAMP WALTER SINGERS

On Friday the 1st and Saturday 2nd December the Belchamp Walter Singers under the leadership of Monika appeared at the Quay Theatre with Robbie Gladwell and Friends for their annual charity concert. Both nights sold out.

In the in the first half of the programme, the singers, after a warm introduction from Robbie, performed a varied programme including Donna Nobis Pacem, a round in three parts, and Can You Feel The Love Tonight from The Lion King, In the second half they all joined the band onstage singing popular numbers, Lean On Me and Super Trouper before providing backing vocals to I Saw Her Standing There and, of course, the ever perennial, Come Up And See Me And Make Me Smile.

The Choir had a great time and you can see when they are performing how much this community group enjoy singing together. The audience were most appreciative and sought out choir members to let them know how much they enjoyed the performance.

Congratulations to one and all you did us proud yet again.



UPCOMING EVENTS

What Events Would You Like?

The suggestion box is always open. If you have an idea or see an event at another village that you think would be good for our village please send your ideas to bwalterenews@gmail.com



Church News

Belchamp Walter Christmas Tree Festival

Thirty little Christmas trees have gone to their decorators. The trees will be displayed from 5th December until Christmas Eve, all are welcome to visit the church and marvel at the creativity of the decorators. You can also pick up a voting sheet when you visit to nominate your favourite tree.

If you have claimed a tree for decoration please drop it off at the church which is open from 9:00am until about 3:45pm. The church will be open but the door might be tricky, so pull the handle towards you and then turn, it will open. If it doesn't work for you, please leave your tree between the screen door and the main door and it will be taken in when the church is closed.

Some trees have already been delivered to the church and it is starting to look very festive with all of the other wonderful decorations, including some rather fetching wreaths.

On 15th December 5:00pm-7:00pm you are invited to a fundraising 'canapés, mulled wine and music by candle light event' where the winning tree will be announced. We are hoping for a good turnout, if you could donate a plate of canapés to the event, or a bottle of wine that would be lovely, please let Monika what you can contribute.

Please email monika.shepherd@btinternet.com

Here is a taste of the little trees that you can see in the church, and there are lots more to come.



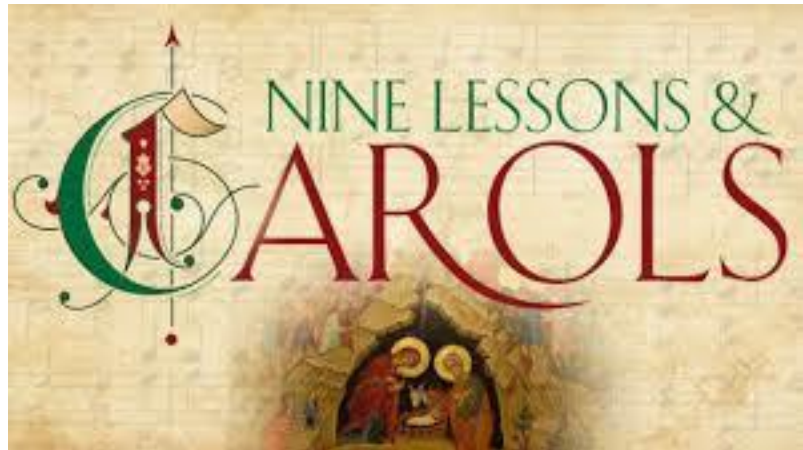
Christmas Eve

Saturday 24th December 6:00pm
Lessons and Carols

Come to the church experience the wonderful atmosphere and take part in the lessons and carols.

Mulled wine and festive nibbles will be served after the service.

If you are interested in reading please email Monika.

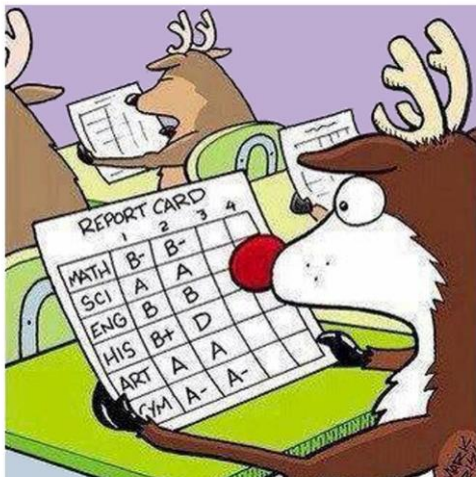


FILM CLUB

Film club will return on the third Friday of January 19th 2024. In BW e-News#9 you might have read that that the rumour was the film might relate to *“The hopeless quest to find a wild cankered dingo”*. Perhaps that was gobbledygook, so how about a new rumour, that may also be gobbledygook, *“The assignment had no prayer giving a croaked ending.”*

Contact Monika on monika.shepherd@btinternet.com to become a Film Club member and receive emails with details on food and film. We have some great films lined up for next year.

AND JUST FOR FUN



OTHER NEWS

Essex Air

A new website has been launched to raise awareness of air pollution in Essex and highlight the simple actions people can take to reduce emissions and help protect themselves and their families.

The new [EssexAir](#) website has been created by Essex County Council on behalf of the Essex Air Quality Consortium.

The website includes a dedicated school zone, with helpful resources, a series of activities for young people, and two interactive online games to help them learn about the different types and sources of air pollution.

It also features an air pollution map and tips for how residents can help reduce their emissions and exposure to air pollution. It includes advice on changing how and when they travel and advice on how to lessen their exposure to indoor air pollutants.

Air pollution is recognised as the largest environmental risk to public health in the UK and is linked to up to 36,000 deaths each year. It reduces life expectancy by causing cardiovascular and respiratory diseases and lung cancer and can exacerbate existing health conditions, such as asthma.

In Essex, 5.5% of deaths in the county (almost 900 deaths) in 2021 were attributable to air pollution



CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

To advertise here please send copy to bwalterenews@gmail.com

Baby Sitting

Are you looking for babysitting services in the Belchamp Walter area? Leila Aitken is 15 years old and looking for babysitting jobs in the area.

She has experience with young children.

Please message Leila if interested
07544861675.





HS
presents
REJOICE!

An evening of traditional songs
& future classics

Carol of the Bells
O Come all ye Faithful
There is no Rose
Hallelujah chorus
& much more

SATURDAY 9th DECEMBER 6pm
Tickets at just £12* which includes a
generous buffet plus hot and cold drinks



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