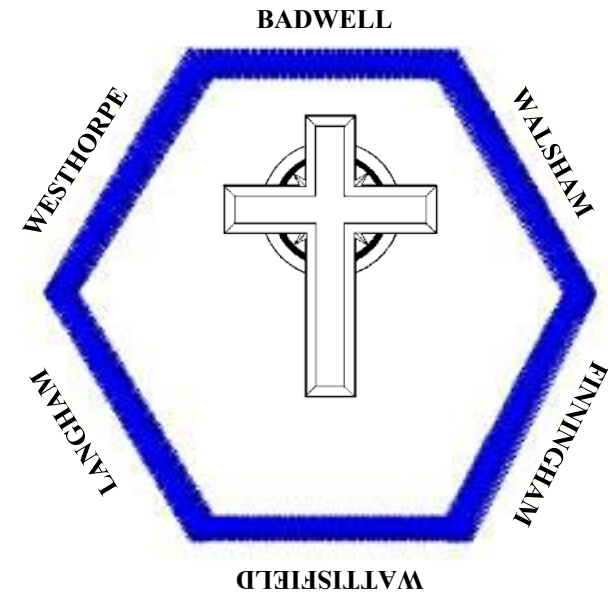


The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham



*Hexagon
August – September 2021*

HARVEST-TIME

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham

Rector:	Rev'd Philip Merry	01359 258806 07526 271784 (philipmerry@hotmail.co.uk)
Retired Priest :	Rev'd Pamela Robson	01359 258939 (robsonpam@btinternet.com)
Benefice Readers:	Ian Jackson	01449 781392
Reader Emeritus:	Freddie Montgomery	(freddiem1@timetalk.co.uk)
Benefice Elders:	Marion Bell	01449 782072
	Denise Merry	01359 258806
	Jill Scarfe	01359 258849
	Andrew Strickland	01449 781487
Benefice Safeguarding Officer:	Tracey Gorzelak	01359 258529

For the past sixteen months, singing in our churches and Cathedrals has not been permitted unless those singing have been members of a small professional choir. For our Sunday and weekday services, as well as occasions of baptisms, weddings and funerals this has left something of a void in our worship and liturgy. Yet it must be stated that given the suffering of so many during the Pandemic crisis, not being able to sing in a church is a very small price to pay if it has helped to decrease the risk of spreading the virus.

Our Benefice churches are Blessed in having accomplished organists who have regularly provided music, even if not accompanied by the hymn singing. By the time this article is read it will more than likely be the case that the restrictions within our churches will have been lifted to once again allow our congregations to sing; just in time for our Harvest Festivals.

One of our popular and traditional Harvest hymns is strangely one that began life more associated with the Armed Forces, becoming both a hymn for funerals and Remembrance Sunday; 'Eternal Father Strong To Save.'

It was written in 1860 by William Whiting, Headmaster of the Winchester College Choristers' School. Whiting had been approached by a young student who was fearful of a forthcoming ocean journey he was soon to undertake to the United States. Whiting, a practising Christian, wrote the hymn for his student to 'anchor his faith.' It is said that the inspiration for the words came from Psalm 107, which describes the power of the seas in great detail, the fear amongst sailors and God's deliverance from danger;

'Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress.'



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In the late 19th century the hymn was adopted by the Royal Navy and the United States Navy, and since then has been adapted by other Services including the Royal Marines and the United States Marine Corps. It is regularly sung at 'church services' aboard ships at sea.

A popular hymn at the funerals of American Presidents, being sung, at amongst others, the funerals of John F. Kennedy, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Richard Nixon. More recently the hymn was sung at the funeral of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at St George's Chapel Windsor Castle; in recognition of his service to the Royal Navy from 1939 – 1952. It is always included at Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday services.

In the late 1960s it began to gain popularity at church Harvest Festival services. This was in recognition of the work of Merchant Seamen and women, plying their trade upon the seas and oceans of the world, through among other things, transport and fishing; the 'Harvest of the Seas.'

Today the hymn is now used widely throughout our services, and will once again be sung this year in our Cathedrals and churches as we celebrate God's Harvest.

Every Blessing
Philip Benefice Priest.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

Brian Coates	10/5/21	Walsham	Burial
Susan Margaret Jackson	21/5/21	Badwell Ash	Burial
John Robert Williams	11/6/21	Walsham	Burial of Ashes

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St MARY's CHURCH BADWELL ASH

Depending upon the restrictions being lifted with regard serving refreshments inside our churches, St Mary's Church Badwell Ash is intending to hold a 'Pound Sale' in August and host an Art Exhibition the weekend of September 18th/19th.

Please look out for details on the notice board or contact Stephen Rose Churchwarden / Philip Benefice Rector

WESTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

Westhorpe Village Hall is a Covid Secure venue which is available for hire. Activities which have restarted:

YOGA Monday (weekly) 10:45am-12:15
Contact: Juliet Wright. Tel: 07503 212670. jujuyoga39@gmail.com

ART CLUB Monday (fortnightly) 2:00-4:00pm.
Contact: Paul Weston. Tel: 07860 376592. paulwestonarchitect@gmail.com

LINE DANCING Monday (weekly) 6.00-7.00pm

CRAFT CLUB Tuesday (fortnightly) 10:00am-12:00
Contact: Lynda Cotgrove. Tel: 01449 789142 / Rosemary Mees. Tel: 01449 780394

SINGING FOR PLEASURE Wednesday (three weekly) 10:00am-12:00
Contact: alisonweston25@hotmail.com / 07972415

Please check the village website at westhorpe.onesuffolk.net for details, or contact Alison Weston on 07972 415205 or wvhbooking@hotmail.com

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WATTISFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Now that COVID restrictions have been lifted Wattisfield Village Hall is hoping to start running its regular classes.

Anyone wishing to hire the hall or for further information please visit www.wattisfield.org.uk or Email: wattisfieldcc@gmail.com

WATTISFIELD GENEALOGY STUDY

My name is Sally Tees-Prior and I am a research genealogist currently working on a study of Wattisfield for 1500-1980.

I am looking for any photos, newspaper articles or information regarding the village you may be happy to share with me (especially any 1800-1945 images). The resulting research will be published in collaboration with The Society of One Name Studies and The Society of Genealogists, but any names can be kept confidential if you wish.

I am a qualified professional genealogist in the last year of my MSc in Genealogy, Heraldry and Palaeographic Studies at the University of Strathclyde. I am also a former resident of Wattisfield having lived at Walnut Tree Farm House, on the edge of the village in the late 70s and now live in Soham, Cambridgeshire.

If you have any information you are able to share with me, please contact me via sally.prior.2017@uni.strath.ac.uk or sally@digupyourrelatives.com.

I'm happy to discuss any queries you may have.

Many thanks, Sally

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IPSWICH AND SUFFOLK CREDIT UNION

The Parish of Walsham-le-Willows has joined with the Archbishop of Canterbury in his initiative to offer an alternative to Pay Day Loan Companies.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has endorsed and promotes Credit Unions nationwide. We had visits from the Ipswich and Suffolk Credit Union during the year 2014. As a result we now have two Walsham-le-Willows Parish members as Credit Union Representatives for anyone in the Benefice with any interests.

They are as follows:

Fred Bloomfield
1 Church View Cottage
The Causeway
Walsham-le-Willows
Bury St Edmunds IP31 3AB
Tel: 01359 258 596
E:mail: bloomfield644@btinternet.com

Ann James
The Thumbbit
Walsham-le-Willows
Bury St Edmunds IP31 3BT
Tel: 01359 259414
E:mail: thumbbit@tecova.com

CONSERVATION DATES

AUGUST

9-15th NATIONAL ALLOTMENTS WEEK The theme in 2021 is Plotting for the Future, celebrating the contribution that allotments make to a sustainable future. For information go to <https://www.nsalg.org.uk/news-events-campaigns/national-allotments-week/>

SEPTEMBER

20th GREAT BRITISH BEACH CLEAN An annual event which has been leading the way in tackling ocean pollution for 26 years. The Marine Conservation Society has made a significant impact on beach litter, the plastic bag charge, banning microplastics in personal care products, better wet wipe labelling and supporting a tax on single-use plastics. For more information go to <https://www.mcsuk.org/what-you-can-do/join-a-beach-clean/>

20th RECYCLE WEEK Organised by WRAP the aim is to encourage the public to recycle more of the right things more often from all around the home. For more information go to <https://wrap.org.uk/taking-action/citizen-behaviour-change/recycle-now/recycle-week>

22nd WORLD CAR FREE DAY Encourages motorists to give up their cars for a day. Some cities and countries have organised events.

23rd SEED GATHERING SEASON The Tree Council welcomes all our volunteer Tree Wardens, member organisations, local communities and families to get involved during the month-long celebrations gathering seeds, fruits and nuts which can be nurtured to grow trees of the future. For further information go to <https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/seasonal-campaigns/seed-gathering-season/>

25th The Forest Stewardship Council will be hosting this annual event designed to raise awareness about responsible forest management and the fight against climate change and climate-smart forestry. Aiming to increase awareness so that more people choose FSC certified products. For more information go to <https://www.fsc-uk.org/en-uk>

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Wattisfield URC Services 2021

August	1 st	11am	Holy Communion
	8 th	11am	Morning worship – speaker from the Fishermen’s Mission
	15 th	11am	Morning worship
	22 nd	10.45am	Morning worship at Diss URC (no service at Wattisfield)
	29 th	11am	Morning worship – service taken by members
September	5 th	11am	Holy Communion
	12 th	11am	Morning worship – speaker from the Vidiyal Trust
	19 th	11am	Morning worship including induction of Jo Patel as our Local Leader by the Moderator
	26 th	11am	United Harvest Festival service at St Margaret’s Church
October	3 rd	11am	Harvest Thanksgiving

Everyone is very welcome at our services, and please continue to bring your own elements for Communion. Please contact Mrs Jo Patel (01359 251789 or 07808 487844) for more information.

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WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school has been through a very difficult 18 months. In November 2019, Mrs Carolyn Taylor joined the school as Acting Headteacher for what she thought would be a couple of months but due to the Coronavirus pandemic and Mrs Hunter's retirement, she ended up staying until Easter 2021. We are very grateful for everything she did for the school, supporting the children, staff and families through the most difficult year anyone working in schools can remember. She has now got back to enjoying her retirement.

In April this year, Mr Ian Page joined us as Acting Headteacher. We would like to thank him for everything he has done in such a short space of time.

We are delighted to say that in April we successfully recruited a new Headteacher, Mrs Maxine McGarr, to start in September. She has already started working with Mr Page and some other members of staff to ensure there is a smooth transition.

At Christmas, Mrs Mecrow made the decision to retire. She has been at the school for many years, and we were very sad to see her go but hope she has lots of adventures when everything opens up more. She is currently still working at the school one day a week as our Special Needs Coordinator. The governors and everyone at the school would like to wish her a very happy retirement and thank her for all of her hard work and dedication during her time at the school.

We would like to finish by saying 'Thank you' to the whole school community. The staff have worked incredibly hard finding a new way of working, at times teaching children in school as well as setting work for children at home. Families have somehow had to find new ways of juggling home-schooling, looking after younger children whilst often continuing with their own jobs. The people who always amaze us the most though are the children; they have shown resilience and have had so much enthusiasm when they have come back into school. It is lovely seeing them enjoying being together with their classmates and working in school as they should.

The Governing Body of Walsham le Willows CEVC Primary School



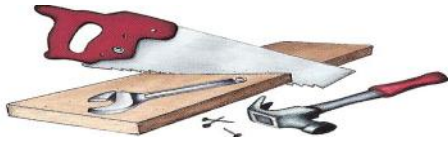
Haughley Hoofers North West Morris Dancers

*** COVID 19 ***

Our practice season has now finished and because of Covid -19 we have had to cancel all events for the summer. Depending on health advice, we hope to start our practice sessions again in September/October on Sunday evenings 7.30-9.30pm in Haughley Village Hall, near Stowmarket.

Ring Sue on 01449 766747 to find out more nearer the time.

www.haughleyhoofers.org.uk or see Haughley Hoofers on Facebook



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QUIZ

1. What is the name given to the stiffening of a body after death?
2. What is the hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth?
3. How is the singer Thomas Woodward better known?
4. How many wings does a bee have?
5. On which mountain did the Ark come to rest?
6. What distinguishes 'polled' cattle?
7. Which country has the highest population, after China?
8. What name is given to the extensive grasslands of the North American interior?
9. Which Swiss hero shot an apple from his son's head?
10. Who were Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar?
11. What name is given to a stoat in its winter coat?
12. Who was the first male professional to win Wimbledon?
13. And who was the first female professional?
14. What is the name for a baby kangaroo?
15. The song 'If I were a rich man' comes from which musical?
16. On which date is 'Yorkshire Day'?
17. Who wrote 'Cider with Rosie'?
18. Tiger Bay is an area of which city?
19. Back, blanket and buttonhole are all examples of what?
20. What was the name of Sherlock Holmes' housekeeper?

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SUMMER AT THE ALLOTMENTS - you win some you lose some!

The rain in May followed by the warmth of June has led to the most prolific growth on the allotments – potatoes have shot up and out and reached flowering now, a promise of a large harvest to come. Each growing year is different thanks to our variable weather and each year there are successes and failures amongst the crops I try to grow.

Strawberries have been a success – with a bumper harvest. It is important to cover the crop as the fruit ripens as birds love to take the fruit – squirrels too but I haven't seen them at the allotments.

The chickens are right next to the strawberry patch and when I am picking I throw a few over the fence to the chickens - they catch them before they fall! Pots of jam have been made and a tub of ice-cream. Other fruit looks promising too – blackcurrants and summer raspberries ready now in July and red currants to come.

Broad beans finally pushed on and flowered well in June but the harvest felt small this year. There has been rumours that the rats are taking the broad beans (evidence of pods chewed up and removed!) No one can work out where the rats are living as no runs can be seen. Frustrating for us when we wait months for the harvest.

The little annual flower I use as a kind of green manure cover crop - Poached egg plant - grew so tall and lasted too long this year – I like to leave it for the bees and other pollinating insects – it covers the ground I am not ready to plant up and then once it has flowered I can clear it away easily. BUT not this year! I think the late start to growth due to the low temperatures in April meant it was still in flower when I wanted to clear it away. Lesson learnt to be more disciplined and leave smaller strips of the flower. The consequence of this, is I planted out my leeks and pumpkin plants at the end of June – not the beginning as I would have liked. They are settling in now but may not grow as big.

The purple kale and cauliflowers are growing under the shelter of netting – another crop essential to protect from pigeons and cabbage white butterflies. My experiment of leaving some kale uncovered but planting Cosmos and

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leaving self-sown Teasel amongst it has worked in some ways - the kale is still there – but the Teasel is so large it has dominated the other plants around it.

Sweet corn is doing well – timing is important for this crop – it need as many days of sunshine that summer can offer to reach maturity. I managed to get this in at Whitsun half term break so there should be enough time ahead for a good crop.

Another success has been sweet peas. I save seed each year. I grow in the small poly tunnel autumn sown plants – they actually self-sowed themselves - then I sow in some seed in pots to plant out in spring for outside growing. Both methods have worked well with early flowers from the poly tunnel plants and the outside sweet peas are still in full flower. They may not last for the Horticultural show in August though so will remember to sow another batch in April next year!

Red spider mite – a tiny spider like creature is making itself known in the poly tunnel – it attacks French beans and cucumbers leaving the plant yellow and with a fine webbing. Each year it appears when condition are too hot and dry. I have tried damping down the soil and regular misting the plants but this year I have sent off for a biological control parasitic wasp which is supposed to help. I will report back on this next time.

Quiz Answers

1. Rigor mortis
2. 56.7C/134.1F
3. Tom Jones
4. Four
5. Ararat
6. They are de-horned
7. India
8. The Plains
9. William Tell
10. The Three Wise Men
11. Ermine
12. Rod Laver
13. Billie Jean King
14. Joey
15. Fiddler on the Roof
16. August 1st
17. Laurie Lee
18. Cardiff
19. Sewing stitch
20. Mrs Hudson

Benefice Services August 2021

Benefice Services September / October 2021

1st August **9th after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion Walsham
9.30am Holy Communion Finningham
3.00pm Evensong Langham

8th August **10th after Trinity**
9.30am Holy Communion Walsham
3.00pm Evensong Westhorpe

15th August **The Blessed Virgin Mary**
8.00am Holy Communion Walsham
9.30am Holy Communion Badwell Ash

18th August **Wednesday**
9.30am Holy Communion Walsham

22nd August **12th after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion Walsham
9.30am Holy Communion Westhorpe
11.00am Songs of Praise Walsham

29th August **13th after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion Walsham
9.30am Holy Communion Finningham

5th September **14th after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion Badwell Ash
9.30am Holy Communion Walsham
11.00am Harvest Festival Wattisfield
3.00pm Harvest Festival Westhorpe

12th September **15th after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion Walsham
11.00am Harvest Festival and **Picnic** Langham

15th September **Wednesday**
9.30am Holy Communion Walsham

19th September **16th after Trinity**
9.30am Holy Communion Walsham
11.00am Harvest Festival Finningham

26th September **17th after Trinity**
8.00am Holy Communion Walsham
11.00am Harvest Festival Badwell Ash

3rd October **18th after Trinity**
9.30am Holy Communion Westhorpe
11.00am Harvest Songs of Praise Walsham

Community Council Food Bank



This facility is now open to provide emergency supplies to residents in Walsham le Willows, Badwell Ash, Finningham, Langham, Wattisfield and Westhorpe who need help during these difficult times

Please donate long life foods and personal hygiene products to our collection point in the Memorial Hall or contact us to arrange a collection.

If you're struggling for whatever reason please contact us for some supplies. All contact will be confidential so no one will know that you've asked.

To help, get involved or to discuss your needs please contact Amanda on 01359 258646 or email wlvcommunitycouncil@outlook.com

NINE WAYS TO BUILD A WILDLIFE FRIENDLY GARDEN

1. Let the grass grow

Leave your mower in the shed. Long grass is one of the rarest garden habitats. By letting some or all of your lawn grow you will make space for many plant and insect species, including butterflies and wildflowers. Mowing the lawn only once every four weeks gives 'short-grass' plants like daisies and white clover a chance to flower in profusion, boosting nectar production tenfold.

2. Bird box and feeding

Birds are an important part your garden's ecosystem, and creating bird boxes and putting out food will help them thrive. Put your bird box up high in a sheltered area. In spring, provide protein-rich feed, such as fat balls. Seeds are best in the winter. If there are cats nearby place your feeder near a dense bush to provide birds with cover.

3. Grow climbers

Ivy is a very useful plant for wildlife. Both the flowers and seeds are good sources of food and pollen. Plus, it provides year-round cover for birds and insects. Clematis and certain varieties of rose are also excellent climbers for wildlife.

4. Build an insect hotel

Leave piles of rocks, twigs and rotting wood in your garden. These will create shelter for all sorts of important insects, such as beetles and spiders.

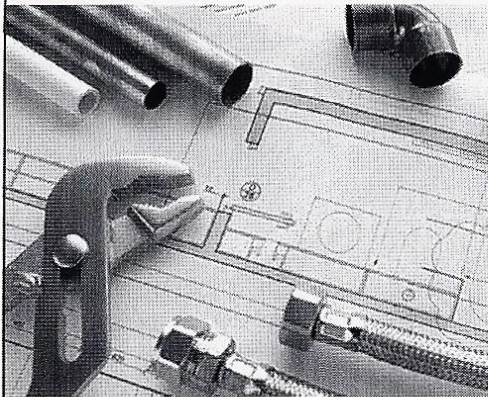


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<cont

5. Create a pond

A pond is a real boost for wildlife. It doesn't have to be huge. You can use a buried bucket or trough. If you do want a big pond, make sure there are stones or branches to help wildlife get in and out. Ponds are best filled with unchlorinated rainwater from a water butt. Waterlilies will help prevent it from becoming stagnant. Avoid locating it in full sun or full shade.

6. Compost

A compost heap is a win-win. Making and using your own compost will naturally enrich your soil. It will also provide a habitat for worms, woodlice and many other insects, including frogs and slow worms. To avoid attracting rats, only add raw, not cooked food.

7. Leave a gap in your fence

Don't lock out hedgehogs and frogs. Make sure your garden fences have some gaps at the bottom. This will allow wildlife to move through from plot-to-plot. It will also help link different habitats together.

8. Grow flowers

Flowers look beautiful and bring colour and scent into your garden. They also provide food for many insects. Grow as many varieties as possible to ensure colour from spring through to autumn. Go for native species, if possible.

9. Have a break from weeding

Learn to relax about weeds. Plants such as nettles, daisies and buttercups are important sources of food for many insects, including butterflies and moths. They flower for a long time, whatever the weather and so provide food when other sources might be absent.

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450g/1lb mixture of berries (strawberries, raspberries,
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397g tin condensed milk
600ml/1 pint whipping cream



Method

1. Put the lemon zest and juice in a large bowl, removing any pips. Add the berries and mash into a puree using a potato masher. Pour in the condensed milk.
2. In a separate large bowl, pour in the cream and whisk using an electric Hand whisk until soft peaks form and curl over a little when you lift the whisk out of the mixture. Do not over whisk.
3. Pour the fruit puree into the cream and carefully mix together using a Large spoon until the mixture is well blended.
4. Spoon the mixture into a large tub and cover with a lid or cling film. Freeze for at least 4 hours.



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**Walsham le Willows and District WI
July 2021**

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INSPIRING WOMEN

On a gently sunlight summer evening a group of old friends and neighbours gathered in a lovely garden chatting and exchanging news, smiling and laughing. This was the WI emerging from a spell of enforced hibernation. As a reminder, even though out of doors, there were chairs socially distanced and masks were handy. Janet Brown WI Adviser for Walsham began by saying how pleasing it was to see everyone face to face at last but that she was here to ensure that Walsham WI could continue with new names to hold the officers' posts, otherwise she would have to advise suspension. A certain amount of lobbying ensued until three timely volunteers averted that course of events. Janet also explained the need to take a vote on this year's resolution calling for improved awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer, from which every two hours someone dies. Exploring the garden in search of clues and gathering items for a horticultural quiz then entertained everyone as the sun ebbed away. A cake to celebrate the 50th year of a reformed Walsham WI was cut by two of the original members, who were there 50 yrs ago. A cup of tea (and was that a glass of Pimms perhaps?) brought the evening to a close.

We plan to meet in the same alfresco surroundings albeit with more weather proofing on July 14th for our Annual Meeting. When Janet Brown will give us a talk about her experience of life on a canal boat. We would be delighted to welcome visitors and prospective members. Membership of the WI gives an opportunity to join with friends and neighbours from our village and a chance to join in activities all over West Suffolk through the Suffolk West Federation of WIs and of course to belong to a national organisation that is both widely respected for its influence on many aspects of government and for its proud history.

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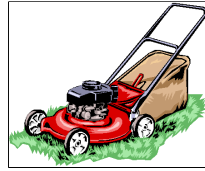
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Last year the 6 churches of the Benefice of Badwell and Walsham raised £2162.50 for the trust; many thanks to all who contributed in whatever way.

If you wish to take part this year by cycling, walking, sitting in the churches or by sponsorship, please do get in touch, Philip Benefice Rector

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