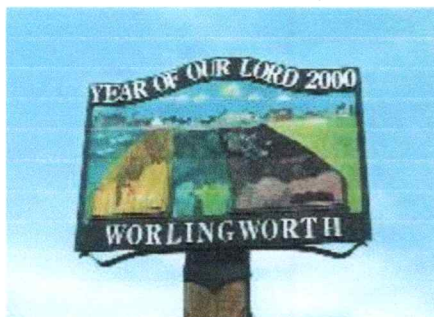




ANNUAL REPORT - 2025

WORLINGWORTH

January 2025

The 2024 winner of the Jubilee Cup, awarded to a stalwart of the community, was Diana Totten. Diana was serving as the President of the local Women's Institute branch and had also served as chairman of the Community Centre Management Committee.

Saturday 11th January saw the Film Club show "The Three Musketeers - D'Artagnan." Bingo was held at the Community Centre on Wednesday 22nd January.

Rev. Chrissie Smart was officially licensed to the Four Rivers benefice during the month.

There were two deaths in the last months of 2024 which escaped the recorders notice. Sheila Chappel, of Grange Farm, was 100 years old when she passed away in October and Lionel Nunney of Willow Green was ninety when he died during November

February

Worlingworth Parish Council was looking for a new Footpaths Warden, after Janie Woods stepped down from the role.

On February 8th, the main film shown by the Film Club was "Life On the Deben."

The recent history of the Worlingworth Swan would have been poorer if not for its care by former landlady Dot Dix, widow of George, who died on February 13th aged 89. The future of the 600 year old inn is still on hold as legal proceedings are taken by the owners against contractors.

Stephen Davis talked to the History Group about Wortham Church Tower on Monday February 17th.

March

The six session Living Hope Lent Course began at the Community Centre on Thursday March 6th.

Film Club on March 8th was "Portraits of Dangerous Women." Another Bingo Night took place on March 12th.

Anglian Water gave advance warning of work to upgrade the drainage system from Swan Road to Worlingworth Hall. Hopefully this will go some way to preventing another period of flooding, as occurred in October 2023.

April

On Saturday April 5th, a Jumble Sale was held at the Community Centre in aid of church funds. Worlingworth and Tannington Women's Institute put on another Quiz Night at the Community Centre on April 26th.

A plea for donations from the community was made in the monthly village newsletter to help fund the repairs to the East Window and Wall of the church.

Prior to the traditional Easter services at the parish church, an Agape supper and service was held on Tuesday evening April 15th.

May

Worlingworth and Tannington WI put on "Afternoon Tea for Victory on Sunday 11th May, celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

Monday 19th May saw respected church historian Roy Tricker talk to members of Worlingworth Local History Group at the parish church.

On May 29th, the Parish Fire Engine gave its annual demonstration when it was exercised next to the church tower. A healthy number of parishioners turned out to witness the occasion. This was a traditional event that had occurred on the same day every year since the engine's acquisition in 1760 up until about 1930.



Parish Fire Engine Demonstration

June

Worlingworth & Southolt Open Gardens were held on the weekend of June 14th/15th.

On the evening of Saturday 14th, the Film Club showed the film "Conclave."

An Inflatable Fun Day "Bounce Fest" was held on the field at Worlingworth Community Centre on Saturday 28th June.

July/August

On August 1st, Phillip Keeling of Cross Cottage died after a battle against prostate cancer. His funeral was held on Friday September 5th and many friends and acquaintances from the community were present.



**St Mary's Church
Worlingworth**
Presents
A Summer Concert
*In celebration of our Patronal Festival
and completion of works
for the renovation of the East Window*
*Join us for an informal evening of music
for piano, organ, and flute*
Featuring
Chris Butler, John Alley and Elisabeth Parry
on
Saturday 16th August at 7 p.m
*Tickets £10 available in advance from Val
Swallow(01728 628068)
or cash on the door*
Includes refreshments

Summer Concert Flyer

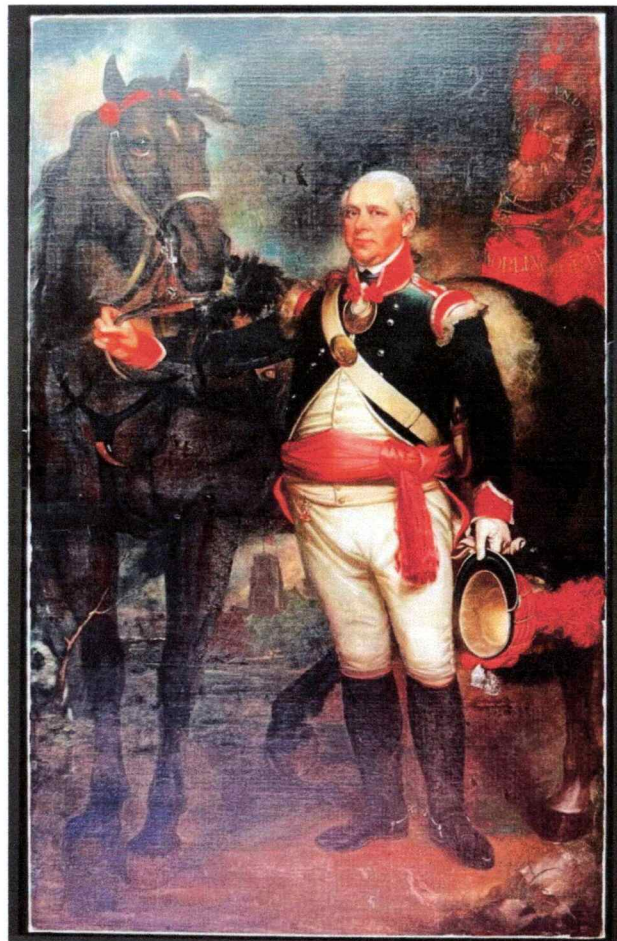
On Friday August 15th, a service of commemoration was held for the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. Saturday August 16th saw classical recitals return to St. Mary's church with a Summer Concert being staged, featuring Chris Butler (keyboard and organ), John Alley (piano) and Elisabeth Parry (flute). The concert was held to raise funds for the continuing renovation of the East Window.

A very interesting talk was given by Sarah Doig on August 18th at the History Group's AGM. "The Real Basil Brown", he of Sutton Hoo fame, was the subject and it was well received by an appreciative audience.

James Connelly, who manages the Worlingworth Oil Syndicate, has volunteered to take on the role of Footpath Warden.

September

September 11th saw a special event take place at The Hold in Ipswich. The painting of Captain John Henniker-Major of the Loyal Worlingworth Volunteers was officially unveiled in presence of over twenty members of Worlingworth Local History Group and another forty dignitaries from various organisations that have contributed to the restoration and conservation of this historic artwork. It hangs on a wall of the John Blatchly Local Studies Library at The Hold.



The Painting after conservation work

The big church fund-raising event of the year was the Book, Jigsaw and Games Fayre. On the weekend of September 13th/14th, hundreds of books, puzzles and games, donated by generous subscribers, were put on sale at the church. There was a steady attendance on Saturday, less on the Sunday but in excess of £400 was raised.

Also during Saturday, two cyclists, Geoffrey Robinson and Francis Muldoon, set out on the SHCT Cycle Ride to raise funds for the church and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. £400 was raised by our cyclists and other generous subscribers, half of which comes to St. Mary's church

Sunday September 21st saw the traditional Harvest Thanksgiving service at St. Mary's church at 6.00 pm

October

A Children's Halloween Disco was held at Worlingworth |Community Centre.

November

The annual Fireworks display was held on November 8th. The Film Club's November 12th offering was "The Dig."

Former headmistress of the school Barbara McElroy came to the November meeting of the History Group and gave her very informative talk "The Castle on the Hill."

A Christmas Market was held at the Community Centre on November 22nd with assorted gifts and handmade products. Mulled wine and bacon baps were also on sale. For the children there were games and face painting.

December

A Christmas Coffee Morning was held on Monday 15th December – this was a joint effort by the School and the Women's Institute.



Christmas Tree in the church

The traditional Carols by Candlelight service took place at the church on Sunday December 21st led by Mark Sheard. Over fifty people attended.

The parish was saddened to learn of the death of Shirley Rutterford on Boxing Day. She had been in poor health for some months. Shirley had been a churchwarden and secretary of the Parochial Church Council for many years until she retired from those roles. Her dedication and love for her church were an abiding feature of her thirty-six years living in the parish.

Worlingworth Annual Report for 2025
Geoffrey Robinson - Village Recorder