

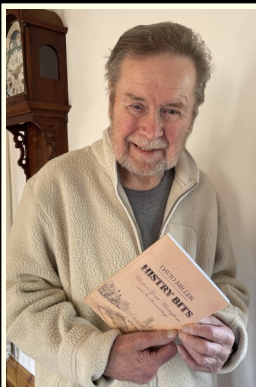
The Mallard

Issue 365

April 2022

As usual, our village has shown how well it supports people in need. The report below from the Film Night demonstrates our generosity with £965 raised for Ukraine. Support for the Village Food Bank continues to be very important so please do all you can. See page 4 about the 'Stall on the Green', on the 9th April, to raise funds. Support for Ukraine is at the forefront of our minds. The poster on page 9 advertises a 'Musical Evening' at the Village Hall, on the 22nd April, to 'Unite for Ukraine'.

Easter wishes to you all.



'Histry Bits' Sales Hit 200!

Many thanks to all of you who bought copies of David Miller's History Bits. We have sold 201 copies at £5 each.

Together we have raised £1,005 for Parkinson's UK!

Special thanks to

the Dabbling Duck, Massingham Stores & Post Office and Ling's Country Goods for their help in our fund-raising effort.

David and Su'en Miller



VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN 9th APRIL

The annual litter pick around Great Massingham will take place on **Saturday 9th April.**

Meet at the Well at **10 am** where teams will be organised and areas for litter picking will be allocated.

Health and Safety guidance will be given for all those taking part.



Bring wellies, gloves, hoe or rake and wear hi viz jackets, if you own them - we have a supply if not. Rubbish bags and a number of litter-picking tools will also be provided.

Helping to keep our village a place to be proud of is very rewarding and a lot of fun – honestly! *Andrew Bickerton*

Film Night raises £965 for Ukraine

On Thursday 17th March an audience of 54 people raised £965, plus £170 in Gift Aid, for the Ukraine Appeal DEC.



The excellent film, 'Limbo', was showing which was very timely as it told the story of refugees, from Syria and elsewhere, waiting endlessly for the outcome of their asylum claims. Entry to the event was by donation with Film Night covering all the costs.

See right for April's film. See you there!

FILM NIGHT

Thursday April 21st

7pm for 7.30pm at the Village Hall, cost £5

'West Side Story'

A 2021 American musical romantic drama film directed and co-produced by Steven Spielberg from a screenplay by Tony Kushner.



Mallard News

This parish magazine is published every month for the residents of Great and Little Massingham with the support of the Great Massingham Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council and Massingham Village Hall Trustees.

www.greatmassingham.net

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Great Massingham

01485 520 899

Website : Contact the Editor - Details above.

Deadline for the next issue 17th April

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Thanks for your support at Special Village Hall Events
Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Pop Up Restaurant meal on March 11th. We will be repeating this successful event in September.
Look out for a date in the July Mallard. In the meantime....

The Thai food stall
is at the Village Hall on
Saturday May 7th 4pm - 8pm.
Please come along and enjoy their tasty menu.

Community Lunch
Massingham Village Hall Bar, Tuesday April 26th
Arrive from 12.30pm, eat at 1pm

MENU: £8

Chicken and Ham Supreme or black bean, leek & Butternut. Both served with rice and green salad.



Individual berry fool or Cheese & Biscuits. Tea & Coffee.

Come & meet friends for a chat.

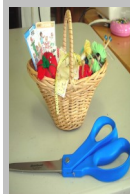
The Bar will be open to buy drinks.

To order a lunch please write down your food choice and name on a piece of paper and post it in the village hall post box, next to the entrance, or, email Debs Lambert

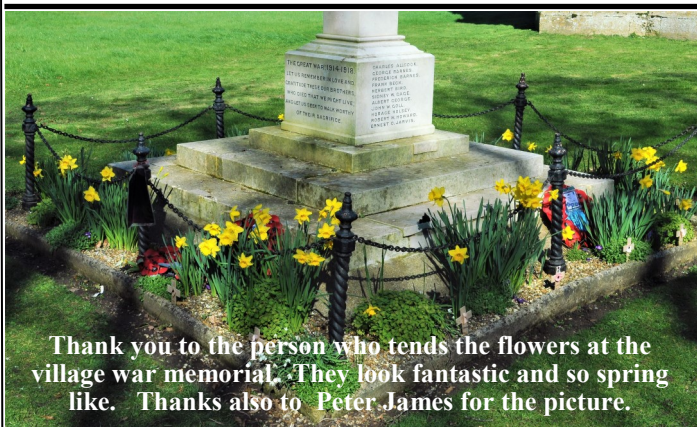
with your order - mrsdl1965@gmail.com

Cut off day is Friday April 22nd

Mobile Library
Next Visits
5th April and
3rd May from 12.35
as timetabled.



CRAFT & CHAT
For April
4th and 18th
at 2pm, in the
Village Hall Bar



Thank you to the person who tends the flowers at the village war memorial. They look fantastic and so spring like. Thanks also to Peter James for the picture.

**Preliminary plans for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
at the village hall and bar.**

More details to follow next month.

Thursday June 2 nd	Community Lunch, menu to include Coronation Chicken!
Friday June 3 rd :	Prize Bingo
Saturday June 4 th	Gert and Daisy Quiz
Sunday June 5 th	BBQ, sport activities, live music

Keep the dates FREE !

Coronation and Jubilee History.....

As we move nearer to the platinum Jubilee (70 years) of our Queen's accession to the throne and her coronation a year later, this seems a good time to look back into our village history. Queen Elizabeth acceded to the throne in February 1952 following the death of her father, George VI and her coronation took place on the 2nd June 1953.

*Have you ever looked closely at the small blue gate that leads into the churchyard?
If you haven't noticed it, then here are some details.....*



**Guides and Brownies
Present Special Gift**

At the side entrance to Great Massingham's St Mary's Church grounds, you will see a blue gate (pictured left) with the badge of the Girl Guides attached and a plaque on the left hand post that reads:

'Presented by 1st Massingham Guides and Brownies to commemorate the coronation of HM Queen Elizabeth II.'

The guides and brownies collected 'bun pennies' from everyone to raise funds for the gate. Bun

pennies were those with the young head of Queen Victoria on them, showing her bun. They used jam jars as collecting boxes and were successful in raising enough funds to

pay both for the gate and its installation. Once it was in place, a special ceremony of dedication was held - see picture left.

The Reverend Alfred John Davies lead the dedication service with guides and brownies standing by.

Does anyone living in the village now remember attending this service or collecting the bun pennies? Guides and brownies then met regularly in the village. Nowadays, they have to go further afield to join in such activities.



Mallard News - April events

GT MASSINGHAM BOWLS CLUB EASTER PRIZE BINGO

Great Massingham Village Hall

at 7.30pm on
8th April

Good Prizes and Raffle.

Please come & give your support!



Great Massingham TREFOIL GUILD

Thursday April 7th at 7pm at
Great Massingham Village Hall

‘Crosses for Pockets’

New members welcome.
PLEASE JOIN US.

*Please call Rita Gosling on
01485 520 730*



Stalls on the green
Saturday 9th April 10am
Jumble, Bric-a-brac, cakes,
Raffle & tombola

All proceeds will go to
our Food Bank at St
Mary's.

Come & find a bargain as
well as meeting with people
for a "natter" & catch up.

If wet we will move into the Church

FOOD BANK NEWS

At the moment, and not unexpected, we have been very busy. We need to do some fundraising and we are organising stalls on The Green on Sat 9th April from 10am. (*see poster left*)

Any donations of food, toiletries etc. are also most welcome and can be left in the box in the Church porch or on one of the tables at the back of Church.

We are grateful to Anna, Janice, Chrissy, June and all others who help with the Food Bank.

This is really appreciated.

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Great Massingham Parish Council - March Meeting

Brief report due to illness of the Clerk

The March meeting was held on the 7th of March. Five members of the public attended.

The following Highways issues were raised with Cllr Dark:

- a. The condition of the footpath on Station Road from the Village Hall to the church.
 - b. Parking outside the school by the junction was causing problems and the zig zags are to be extended and the signage improved.
 - c. The work required on the verges on the greens had been programmed for work by Highways, including grass re-seeding and wooden bollards.
 - d. The poor condition of the footpath from Kennels Farm up the Castle Acre Road was raised as it is very narrow and is forcing parishioners onto the road.
- The water survey has taken place on Scotsman's Pit and the results should be available within the next 2 weeks.
 - The FOSPGM report in the Mallard stated that 'we have agreed that a one metre no-mow area will be implemented around the entire Pit' was misleading as some parishioners thought it was for the whole year. However, it will be reviewed on a regular basis starting 30th June.
 - Cllr Cole and his volunteers were thanked for their continual work dispersing the Geese.
 - The newly formed Great Massingham Community Garden (GMCG) have put forward proposals for the area of land by Charles Dewar Close and it was agreed to donate £500 to start the first phase of planting and other work.
 - The commemorative planting of three trees for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee has to take place soon and it was agreed that Cllr James contacts both schools to invite them along.
 - It was also agreed to make a donation to cover the cost of an event to be organised by the Village Hall and consider further options upon receipt of quotations.
 - The Neighbourhood Development Plan is now at the survey form stage and early returns all quote the parking on the greens as a serious problem.

The next meeting will be on Monday 11th of April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Magpie Centre, West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association

This season's first monthly Tea With a Pony session is scheduled for Wednesday April 20th, to enable anyone with health or mobility problems to meet, socialise over tea and cakes and meet one of our lovely ponies.

The venue, our recently-opened Sensory Garden, which has a covered area, is wheelchair friendly and the cost is £10 per participant, including carer.

Other friends or relatives are welcome to attend at £5 each. Booking is essential, so call the Centre on 01553 810202, during office hours, to reserve your places now. The Magpie Centre is located at Wallington Hall, South Runcton, Kings Lynn, PE33 0EP.

Great Massingham Primary school
The winners of the February Draw 2022



- 1st prize – Lucy West
2nd prize – Stephen Panke
3rd prize – Jolene Marshall

Are there any Christians interested
in meeting for an hour once a month to
pray for the Village and any other needs?
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Paul and Jenny Borley on 520542

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Biodiversity Project News

During March volunteers rotavated the meadow to stimulate germination of the seed bank that will be in the soil from two years ago. We will be topping up the seed on our next work party morning to add some more variety for the coming summer. Volunteers have also helped prepare the meadow area at the Village Hall but this proved quite a challenge even for a heavy rotavator and help of a more agricultural nature has been sought!

Toads have been migrating back to their breeding ponds, particularly on mild, humid evenings and patrols have been busy at Little Massingham where around 1,000 have been saved at the time of writing in mid-March. Numbers at Great Massingham have been far lower in recent years but small numbers are being noted heading to Scotsman's Pit on Walcups Lane and Abbey Road. There may not be a patrol in that area but please look out for them after dark.



The next working party at Weasenham Road is on Saturday 2nd April at 10am. and new volunteers are always welcome. The jobs are varied from cutting up fallen timber and keeping the dyke clear to new planting along the pond margin and dividing snowdrops.

Tim Baldwin

A REMINDER....

Village Hall Membership fees are now due..

Memberships due from the 1st April.

The fee is £10 per person for all adults over eighteen.

Please Join or renew now.

Easter services for St Mary's Gt Massingham & St Andrew's Lt Massingham



*Palm Sunday April 10th
Holy Communion 10.30am
Rev Judith Pollard
St Mary's Gt Massingham*

*Maundy Thursday April 14th
Holy communion 10.30am
Rev Judith Pollard
St Mary's Gt Massingham*

*Good Friday 15th April
Liturgy of the cross 2.30pm
Rev Judith Pollard
St Andrew's Lt Massingham*

*Easter Sunday April 17th
Holy Communion 9.30am
Rev Julian Thomson
St Mary's Gt Massingham*



Peregrine Falcons

After several surveys by a charity specialising in Peregrine Falcons, we have been asked if we are willing to have a Peregrine Falcon nesting box on top of the St Mary's Church tower. We are very excited about this and I have made enquiries with Cromer Parish Church where they have a very



successful nest.

They have a television camera screening the nest which transmits to a receiver in church. This has increased the visitors and supporters of the church and been well received by the neighbours.

It would be very fortunate to attract a pair and have a successful nest. The schools in Cromer have been keen supporters and have carried out various studies.

This project could attract television coverage just as it has at Cromer and Norwich and, with that, bring many visitors to our village. There would be benefits for the Church and other local businesses too. I hope that the project will materialise and be successful.

Stephen Hudson, Churchwarden

Unite for Ukraine



Musicians and the Community Unite for a musical evening of Songs, Dance, Jigs and Fun.

**Friday April 22nd at Great Massingham Village Hall.
7pm – 11pm. Families Welcome.**

Admission by Donation. Numbers are limited - **please pre book.**

To make a pledge and/or book your ticket please **contact**
Jools4Ukraine@gmail.com or telephone **0795 108 5007**

**Suggested donation -
£5 for adults and 50p for children**

ALL money raised will go to the
Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal (via Disasters Emergency Committee)

Compere for the evening is Mr Ken Connor

Musical Entertainment by:

The Fried Pirates



The Tildens



Bruther Will



Rhythm Travellers



Licensed Bar + Food by....

Coffee Café - Khushee Street Food - Vegetarian and Vegan

Amma's Kitchen: burgers with a Sri Lankan twist.

All contributors are giving their services for free.



Please visit our website for much more information on all these events and the latest news on new events being added to the programme, and, of course, to book online! www.westacretheatre.com

Here is a summary of 'What's on When'

- **On Stage in the Studio:** The Pantaloons present GREAT EXPECTATIONS An affectionately anarchic adaptation of Charles Dickens' captivating coming-of-age chronicle - Sat 2 April at 3pm and 7:30pm for £16 adults; £10 for under 16
- **Workshop with Carolyn Ash:** ENCHANTED MOSAIC MIRROR MAKING Sun 3 April from 10am to 4pm for £90 including all materials
- **Missadventures Theatre Company** present COSTUMES AND CAPERS Holiday workshops for 8 – 11 year olds creating characters, stories, scenes and plays. On 4, 5, and 6 Apr from 9am to 3pm for £40 per day
- **On Screen in the Studio:** SPENCER [12A] 2021 Set on the Sandringham Estate starring Kristen Stewart and Timothy Spall Wed 6 April at 2pm for £10 with optional lunch for pre-booking
- **Theatre Tots** present **EASTER WORKSHOPS** 3 different sessions covering 2 to 7 year olds on 13 and 14 April. Please see website for times and fees.
- **On Screen in the Studio:** Henry V by William Shakespeare filmed at the Donmar in London by National Theatre Live. Thu 21 April at 7pm for £12 with optional dining for pre-booking.
- **On Screen in the Studio:** BELFAST [PG] 2021 Directed and written by Kenneth Branagh, starring Judy Dench Wed 4 May at 2pm for £10 with optional lunch for pre-booking.

TEL: 01760 755 800

What is access to Sport and Leisure Facilities like in YOUR area?

A new study is to investigate sports provision across West Norfolk to identify what additional facilities and pitches might be needed now and into the future.

The research, commissioned by the Borough Council, will help the council, community organisations and sports clubs to apply for funds for new facilities because it will provide a ready-made bank of evidence to show what is needed.

The research began in March and will continue until mid-May. The findings are expected to be reported to the cabinet in the autumn.

Anyone wishing to find out more and submit a view, either on behalf of a club or organisation, or as an individual, can fill in a survey at

<https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/sportsfacilityresearch>
by mid-May

Grimston and District W.I.

Our April meeting is a visit from King's Lynn U3A handbell team. They will perform a variety of pieces and then there will be a chance for the audience to have a go.

King's Lynn U3A Handbells
Monday 11th April at 7.30 at
Grimston Village Hall
(early due to Easter)

A calendar of our monthly meetings is on the WI notice board in Grimston village hall. New members are always welcome. We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7.30pm. *(not December).*

Looking forward to meeting you.

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Message for Parishioners from Joy Smith



As I sit down to write this letter my thoughts are very much with the people of the Ukraine as they fight for what they believe in but are faced with the impossible task of seeking a way to settle the situation. We all look on with horror as the events unfold, not sure how this will end or even if we will all become involved in the conflict.

At this time of year, we hear again the Easter story. The story is about Jesus, a man who challenged the status quo, turned the values of society upside down, offered a way to bridge the natural and the supernatural world and, on Good Friday, gave his life for all of us. Watching him die were the men and women who followed, supported and learned from him. All the possibilities he seemed to offer came to an end, when Jesus on the cross cried out the words, 'It is finished!' bowed his head and gave up the spirit. So, was it the end? Did the Friday that we call Good Friday mark the end of the Jesus story? Did his followers slink off home, defeated and dispirited? Maybe so, for a couple of days but then Jesus was raised again to life, a new life that somehow broke through all human understanding of what it meant to die.

For Christians, the death and the resurrection of Jesus lie at the heart of what it means to be truly human. Why? Because Christians believe that every barrier that might be placed between turning evil to good, between lies and truth, between slavery and freedom and, ultimately, between God and humanity, was broken down on that first Easter Sunday morning. It represents hope of a new start, a new direction, a new future and the opportunity to be truly fulfilled humans.

It may be that at the moment we all feel a little bit like Jesus' followers – the world seems uncertain and dangerous, the news constantly elevates our concerns, creating a picture of a world we can no longer really understand.

Easter, however, is a story of hope. Easter tells us that, however bad our situation might appear to be, there is a way forward, even if we can't see it right now and there is always prayer. It may be prayer to the God you believe in. It may be prayer to the God you don't know. It may even be prayer that has no known destination. Many people, of all ages, have found that praying can have remarkable results. Sometimes, it may feel as though we are forever stuck in Good Friday but we must remember that Easter Sunday always follows.

Joy Smith, Licensed Lay Minister

Prayer

Dear Lord, Thank you for the inspiration and hope that we can take from the Easter story. Help us to bring that hope and kindness to all those we can.

Pilgrim's Cross

The Northern leg of the Pilgrim's Cross will be arriving in the Village on Maundy Thursday. They will be staying in the Village Hall overnight, on route to Walsingham, on Good Friday.



On Sunday 3rd April afternoon Authors, Books and Cake

will be supporting

Norfolk and Waveney Mind

At the Assembly Rooms Swaffham



Come and hear Norfolk authors and their publishers share with you their writing career and books published while you enjoy a delicious afternoon tea. Tickets £20. *Tickets from Ceres Bookshop in Swaffham. Tel. 01760 722 504*



Well done Georgina!

We featured Georgina in our Jan 2020 issue.

Local girl, educated locally and now a marine scientist, based in Scotland, Georgina has just been named as WiSA 'Innovation Research Champion for 2022' for her contribution to aquaculture research. *(WiSA stands for Women in Scottish Aquaculture.)*

Church Services April 2022 including Easter Services

Date	Time	Service	Location
Sunday 3 rd April	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong	Roydon Harpley Little Massingham Grimston Congham
Wed. 6 th April	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
Sunday 10 th April Palm Sunday	8.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion Donkey Service	Congham Little Massingham Gayton Great Massingham East Walton
11 th April	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Grimston
12 th April	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Congham
13 th April	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Roydon
14 th April <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	10.30 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Agape Meal/Service	Great Massingham Gayton
15 th April <i>Good Friday</i>	10.30 am 2.00 pm	Meditation for Good Friday Liturgy of the Cross	Grimston Little Massingham
Sunday 17 th April <i>Easter Day</i>	6.00 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am	Dawn Service Sung Eucharist Family Holy Communion Holy Communion	Ashwicken Harpley Great Massingham Grimston
Wed. 20 th April	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Grimston
Sunday 24 th April	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Holy Communion Celtic Service	East Walton Great Massingham Little Massingham Gayton Gayton Thorpe
Sunday 1 st May	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	<i>Holy Communion</i> <i>Family Service</i> <i>Holy Communion</i> <i>Holy Communion</i> <i>Evensong</i>	<i>Roydon</i> <i>Harpley</i> <i>Little Massingham</i> <i>Grimston</i> <i>Congham</i>
For more news please visit our benefice website at www.ggmbenefice.uk			

A Prayer for Ukraine

Father God, King of all nations, we cry out to you now for the people of Ukraine. We ask you to rescue those who are vulnerable from the hands of their enemies that they may live without fear before you all their days. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.



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Sunday 12 noon to 6.30 pm

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Useful Numbers

Organisation	Contact	Phone No.
Allotment Association	Gill Goold	0750 824 2223
Biodiversity Project	Tim Baldwin	520 813
Borough Council	James (Jim) Moriarty	07879 492400
Bell Ringing	Dale Gagen	520 024
Bowls Club	Peter Wadham	520 796
Church Contacts	Revd Judith Pollard	01485 601 251
Community Car Scheme	Office	520 823
Coronation Club	Jill Whitmore	520 609
County Council	Stuart Graham Dark	07450 679 355
Dabbling Duck Pub	Mark Dobby	520 827
Doctors	Massingham Surgery	520 521
The Film Night	Arthur Allen	520 628
Fishing Warden	Paul Smith & Ken Perry	Sue Nash 07802 670 711
Guide Trefoil Guild	Shirley Rae & Rita Gosling	520 259 & 520 730
Massingham Historical Society	Peter James	521 706
Neighbourhood Plan	Mike Jackson	520 056
Parish Council	Sue Nash (Chair) & Sarah Harvey (Clerk)	Clerk 01328 823391
Pre-School	Pip Armitage	07807 185 746
Police	Non-emergency	101
School	Kirsten Stibbon	520 362
Tennis and Multi-Sports Club	Clare Parker	520 469
Village Hall	Hall & Bar & Debs Lambert	520 588
Village Stores and Deli	Mark and Kerry Eldridge	520 272



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News from the Steering Group

OPINION SURVEY EXTENDED TO MID-APRIL



Thank you to everyone who has taken the trouble to complete an NDP Opinion Survey Form. Your views will allow us to start building the evidence base on which the NDP will sit. The scale of the response so far has been gratifying and at the time of writing (15th March) over 100 forms have been received with the prospect of more to come during the second half of March. With approximately 502 households in the village this gives a return of over 20% already. However, that still leaves 80% who have yet to submit. If you fall into this category

ALL IS NOT LOST. We have prolonged the survey for two weeks – it will now end on Sunday 17th April. So, please make use of this extended opportunity to ‘have your say’. Forms can be picked-up by the Well, at the Village Hall bar or accessed on line at: <https://www.greatmassinghamndp.co.uk/surveys-consultations/>

PLEASE COMPLETE A SURVEY!

Local businesses, societies and other organisations have also been invited to submit a survey form and we look forward to receiving these as soon as possible. If we are to obtain a balanced view it will be important to have these inputs for what must be a community-led NDP.

Twenty-nine of our primary school children responded enthusiastically to the survey and made very clear what they value the most or want to see improved. The playground, biodiversity, the ponds (pits), road safety and parking on the central green were amongst their priority concerns. These views were often colourfully illustrated as in Floss's picture shown left. The NDP will undoubtedly be enriched by the children's terrific contributions.

For more information on the NDP and how to get involved please e-mail gmndplan@yahoo.com or telephone 01485 520 056.



*We are very keen to attract one or two younger members to the NDP Steering Group.
Mike Jackson on behalf of the Parish Council's NDP Steering Group.*

Some April 2022 'Dates at a Glance'

Date	Event	Time	Place
2 April	Biodiversity Working Party	10 am	Weasenhams Road Pond
4 & 18 April	Craft & Chat	2pm	Village Hall Bar
7 April	Trefoil Guild	7pm	Village Hall
8 April	Bowls Club Prize BINGO	7 for 7.30 pm	Village Hall
9 April	Village Spring Clean	10 am	At the Well
9 April	Stall on the Green	10 am	On the green
11 April	Parish Council Meeting	7.30 pm	Village Hall
21 April	Film Night	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall
22 April	Unite for Ukraine Musical Evening	7 - 11 pm	Village Hall
26 April	Community Lunch	12.30 for 1pm	Village Hall Bar