



The Mallard

Issue 380

August 2023

A Lot's happening in August and September!

Read about three exciting events below and give your support.

There is the chance for you to sort out all those things you no longer use ready to set up your stall in your yard or on the green. Also, two very interesting Massingham Historical Society events, with more details on page two.



DON'T MISS.....

Massingham's Annual Yard Sale

Sunday 20th August ,

from 9am to 1pm

If you haven't yet registered please do so
NOW, preferably before the start of August.

To book a pitch at £5,
call Chrissie on

01485 520 173 or 07771 643 416.

All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Great Massingham.

Sorry, but No Traders. Parking at the Village Hall.

Maps on sale by the well, near the Dabbling Duck.

*If you are willing to help on the day,
please let Chrissie know.*

MASSINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY Presents its 8th Historical Village Walk



Friday 18th August

NOTABLE BUILDINGS

Meet at Village Well 5.30pm

1½ Hour Walk led by Ant Robinson

Finish at Village Hall for BBQ & Film

"Never and Always"

by Denis Mitchell

*(A film made in Massingham &
surrounding areas in the '70s)*

Members Free, Guests £3.00

MASSINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EXHIBITION

Come & see all the old
Photographs of Massingham
Archives - Artifacts

St. Mary's Church

Sept. 2nd & 3rd

10am - 4pm

Books & Post Cards

*Also including the display of
'Massingham Memories',
a Photographic Competition,
refreshments and more. See page 2.*

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

e-mail:

mallard.editor@btinternet.com

Editor: Bev. Randall.

6 Abbeyfields
Great Massingham
01485 520 899

Website : Contact the Editor - Details above.

**Deadline for the
next issue**

17th

August

In this Issue

- Yard Sale
- Hist Soc Village Walk
- Hist Soc Exhibition
- Hist Soc Report
- BINGO
- NDP
- Macmillan
- Craft & Chat
- Rural Crimes Contact
- Church Services
- Church News
- Summer Fun
- Tennis Club Latest
- Coronation Medals
- Rev'd Judith
- Giant Quilt
- Westacre Theatre
- Film Night
- CD's for Foodbank
- Biodiversity Project

MASSINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Firstly, a huge thank you for your interest and support for the Society. Membership continues to grow and it is our aim to organise interesting events and talks for you all.

Thank you so much for your support with the recent 'Stall on the Green' on the 1st July. Thank you to those who helped with baking, carrying, taxiing, selling, humping, donating and collecting. We had a steady flow of villagers and visitors as well as it being a great social event. We raised £327.60 on the stall and also took £89.50 in new memberships and sold some books and cards. The final total was £417.10. Amazing!

As well as the money raised on the stall, we are expecting to receive at least £500 from the TESCO tokens. Thank you to those of you who took part in this.

The funds raised will allow us to continue organising, developing and improving our artefacts and other resources and also to support special events such as those listed below. We hope you will be able to join us at these events. **THANK YOU.**

Jeanne Robinson

MORE DETAIL ABOUT COMING EVENTS.....

• 8th Historical Walk and BBQ on 18th August

See details on page 1. The event starts at the Well at 5.30pm.

We look forward to seeing you there

• Exhibition, St Mary's Church, 2nd & 3rd September

This will be a large display of old photos, archives, artifacts and more. Refreshments and portaloos also available.

Please see the insert delivered with this issue that tells you about the 'Photographic Competition' and encourage your children to enter to win the £50 voucher.

Massingham Memories

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee
1952 to 2012
Souvenir Issue

Our Village Memories over the sixty years.



The 'Massingham Memories' display will be part of the exhibition, giving everyone the chance to visit 'memory lane'.

The display, and booklet pictured left, were produced as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. It covers the 'memories' of life in Great and Little Massingham over the sixty years from 1952 to 2012.

Please support this event. The Church will be open each day from 10 am until 4pm.



**4th August
At Great Massingham
Village Hall.**

Doors open at 7pm
Eyes down for 7.30pm

Harpley Community Choir

**Mondays 7.30pm to 8.30pm,
Harpley Village Hall**

All welcome and we particularly wish to encourage more male singers and young people (over 11 years)



GREAT MASSINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN Update August 2023

Following on from the consultation event in May, we continue to review the feedback of which there is a tremendous amount, much of which falls outside the remit of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). However, the steering group will ensure that this information is passed to the relevant groups. Equally, within the feedback, there are a number of opposing views as villagers have different priorities. Some aspirations can be met by the NDP but others will have their hopes recognised through the work of the Parish Council and local groups. All information from the consultation event can now be viewed on the website www.greatmassinghamndp.co.uk

The next steps for the NDP Steering Group will be to:

- consider all the information collected.
- prepare draft policies based on ALL the feedback received.
- present draft policies to the local community for further feedback - we really welcome your views.

Following these steps, a draft NDP document after final review by the community, will be presented to Parish Council for comment and for approval to submit. Finally, the Great Massingham community (You) will be asked to take part in a referendum to adopt it. So, still lots to do and your ongoing support is very welcomed.

You're welcome to learn more about what the Steering Group is doing by attending our monthly meetings - dates and times are on the website:

<https://www.greatmassinghamndp.co.uk/key-documents/>

If you are interested in getting involved in the steering groups or supporting the work of the NDP, please send us an email. To subscribe to e-mail updates please contact gmndplan@yahoo.com.



Advance Notice!

Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday, 29th September,
10am to midday

This is the final push to reach the target total of £100,000, from fundraising over the past few years. We are almost there and, with your help this year, should reach the target. Please help.

Chrissie will be pleased to receive any donations and prizes.

Call her if you need anything collected - **01485 520 173**



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Craft & Chat August Dates

2pm onwards

at the Village Hall Bar

14th and 21st August

Look forward to seeing you



Rural Crimes Police Officer Contact

PC Chris Shelley 07900 407 106

Christopher.shelley@norfolk.police.uk

Church Services

August 2023

Date	Time	Service	Location
Wed. 2 nd August	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
Sunday 6 th August	10.30 am	Group Holy Communion <i>Reverend Judith's last service</i>	Grimston
Sunday 13 th August	8.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion	Congham Little Massingham Gayton Great Massingham
Sunday 20 th August	9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Sung Eucharist Songs of Praise Holy Communion	Harpley Great Massingham Grimston
Sunday 27 th August	8.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Service Celtic Service	Ashwicken Little Massingham Gayton Great Massingham Gayton Thorpe
Sunday 3 rd September	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Service Songs of Praise Morning Praise	Roydon Harpley Little Massingham Grimston

For more news please visit our benefice website at www.ggmbenefice.uk

BENEFICE CHURCH NEWS

Special Fond Farewell on Sunday 6th August



Sunday the 6th August will be Rev Judith's last service with us, as she is retiring. We are holding a special Holy Communion service for all the Benefice that day to celebrate Judith's time with us and to wish her and Mike every happiness in their retirement.

Do please come and join with us at 10.30am, at St Botolph's Grimston, and for refreshments afterwards, when everyone will have time to speak to Judith.

Walking Through Our Parishes

Our third walk is at East Walton on Saturday 26th August, starting at 3pm.

Meet at Abbey Farm by 3pm with refreshments afterwards.



Church Fete/Craft Fair Thanks

Thank you for supporting this event held in and around St Mary's and the green on 1st July. There was a steady flow of people and the weather was good, thankfully. We raised more than £1,000 on the day but, minus expenses, it will leave in the region of £800 to be shared between the Church and the Summer Fun event. (see p 16)

We really appreciate your support.



NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST ANNUAL CYCLE/ WALK/DRIVE

**Saturday 9th September,
9.00 - 5.00 pm**

Our 40th anniversary Bike Ride! We want to make this year a really special day. Details from the Church or website.

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GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL - 10th July Meeting

Eight Councillors – Robin Arbenz, Lex Brun, Jon Cole, Kim Frazer, Kevin Hobart, Peter James, Sue Nash & Maria West attended along with ten members of the public & County Councillor, Stuart Dark.

Highways Issues

At each Parish Council meeting there is an opportunity for Councillors to note any issues of concern relating to the highway. These are then reported to Norfolk County Council Highways department which are then assessed by the Highways Inspector and programmed for repair.

At the July meeting it was noted that the footway along Abbey Road was deteriorating significantly and that this would require work to remedy this in the near future. County Councillor, Stuart Dark agreed to raise the concern with highways on our behalf.

INFO: Members of the public may also report highway problems via Norfolk County Council's website - <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem> or by telephoning 0344 800 8020.

Dredging of the Biodiversity Site Pond, Weasenham Road.

As you know, dredging work was undertaken, last August, to the Post Office Pit in order to remove both sediment and debris from the bottom of pond. The Parish Council is now considering quotations to undertake similar work at the Biodiversity Pond. Notices will be put in place, in advance, to inform residents when the work will be carried out.

Post Office's everyday banking capabilities

In light of local bank branch closures across the country, the Post Office is looking to raise awareness of everyday banking capabilities and how people can go into any Post Office to deposit or withdraw cash for free.

Great Massingham has been shortlisted to be included as part of an upcoming communications campaign to highlight the Post Office's everyday banking capabilities. For half a day in early August, the Post Office press team will visit the village in order to take photographs and film in the area, with the information gathered intended to be distributed to the national media and included as part of their campaign.

Planning Applications

Planning Applications dealt with by the Parish Council, as statutory consultee, during July included; 23/00921/F – Construction of new dwelling, at 21 Abbey Road.

Applications approved/refused by Borough Planning Control.

23/00717/F Great Massingham Spar Stores - The Village Store 14 Station Rd - Amended design of existing permission. Permitted 29 June 2023. Delegated Decision.

23/00670/F Great Massingham - Sunrise, 52 Weasenham Rd - Proposed External Canopy area with Lantern. Permitted 13 June 2023. Delegated Decision. *Full details on PC website.*

Scam Alert – Fake parcel delivery emails and text messages

Residents are warned about scam emails and text messages making claims about parcel deliveries. The messages will often state they are 'shipping notices', 'package delivery notices' 'delivery status updates' or 'unable to deliver your parcel'.

These messages are sent by criminals from fake websites to look similar to the genuine websites regarding branding, layout, font choices in an attempt to gain personal or financial information. If you receive a suspicious email you think is a scam, you can report it to the National Cyber Security Centre by forwarding the message to report@phishing.gov.uk

Suspicious or scam text messages can be reported by forwarding the message to 7726. More information on this free reporting service and how to forward messages from your device is available on the Ofcom website

If you think you have interacted with a scam message and provided the scammers with your financial details you should contact your bank immediately.

You can also report all scam messages to us via our partners the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on freephone 0808 223 1133

Next Meeting *The next Parish Council meeting is on 14th August, at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Members of the public are very welcome to join the meeting. See question and answer info p7 ➡*

Here is some advice for members of the public wishing to speak at Parish Council meetings.

Am I able to speak at a council meeting?	All meetings of the Council will give an opportunity for members of the public to speak.
How will I know when to speak?	The Chairperson will announce this part of the meeting. It's called public participation and usually early in the meeting.
Are there items I may not discuss?	Matters that are confidential or commercially sensitive may not be addressed in public. If you are unsure, speak to the Clerk
How do I know what is on the agenda?	The agenda is published on the website and the Council's notice board.
How do I arrange to speak?	Just raise your hand when the Chairperson invites the public to speak during the public participation part of the meeting.
How long may I speak for?	Usually up to 3 minutes but the Chairperson may allow slightly longer. Maximum time set aside for public participation is 15 minutes to hear from everyone wishing to address the Council.
May several people present a comment together?	Yes, in fact, we prefer it if a group has a spokesperson.
May I raise an issue that is not on the agenda?	Yes, although we might not be able to give a response immediately. Decisions can only be made on agenda items. Leave your contact details with the Clerk before you leave the meeting.
Can I provide written information?	Yes, contact the Clerk at least a week before our meeting so that it can be circulated.
Will the Council respond ?	Yes, on a case by case basis.
When will a decision be made?	There are no timescales for decisions. However, please contact the Clerk sometime after the meeting if you wish an update.

Clerk Details: email gmparishclerk@gmail.com or Byanoak, Leicester Rd, South Creake, NR21 9PW.

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TENNIS CLUB UPDATE – COURTS LOOKING GOOD!

On Saturday, 17th June the Tennis Club enjoyed getting together for a sociable afternoon with a fun mixed doubles tournament organised by our coach, Jeremy, plus a mini-tennis tournament on the basketball court, overseen by Rob Burton.



Aerial photo of the new blue tennis courts

It was the perfect opportunity to celebrate the re-surfacing and painting of the courts, which now look amazing in blue, with a green run-off (*see left*) and to pay tribute to our out-going Chair, Clare Parker.

The tournament winners were Mandy Bennett and Josh Mummery (*see picture below*) who beat Annie Lawton and Alan Petto in an entertaining final. Josh Mummery also won the mini-tennis tournament, beating

James Lodge in the final. Thanks to Jeremy for organising the event and to those who helped, especially the BBQ Team of Brian, Phil and Annie.

A lot has happened at the club in the last few years. Firstly, back in 2021, floodlights were installed on the lower courts after a successful fundraising bid through the Calor Gas Rural Community Fund. This was initiated and driven by Clare with help from Bruce Riches, Alan Petto and Rob Burton and, along with a grant from Sport England, over £6k was raised to fund floodlights on the lower court. This means that league matches are no longer dependant on daylight hours and social tennis can be played in the evening during the winter months.

Last year, the committee decided the courts needed resurfacing and, again, Clare was instrumental in obtaining quotes and ensuring everything went to plan. The initial resurfacing took place last autumn, but the right weather conditions were needed for painting, hence the transformation to blue courts wasn't completed until May this year. Everyone seems pleased with the end result and playing conditions are much improved.

Steve Gould has recently taken on the role of new Chair of the Club with Charlie Smith as Vice-Chair. During the afternoon Steve thanked Clare for all her hard work over the last 4 years in improving the club's facilities and introducing the LTA's Clubspark IT software to the club and tirelessly promoting GM club within Norfolk LTA. He presented her with a voucher, card and personalised hoodie from the club in thanks and appreciation of her efforts. (*See picture next page*) She will continue as a committee member in the role of Club Treasurer. Caroline Harper stood down from this role earlier this year after 6 years and the club is very grateful for her contribution. ►



Jeremy presents prizes to the Mixed Doubles winners, Josh Mummery and Mandy Bennett.



Clare officially opens the newly resurfaced courts.



New Tennis Club Chair, Steve Gould presents out-going Chair, Clare Parker, with a personalised club hoodie

The village is very lucky to have its own tennis facilities and the club appreciates the support from the Village Hall Trustees, particularly in helping to apply for and successfully obtain a grant from the Norfolk Community Foundation, Borough Council of KL&WN, which helped to fund the resurfacing of the tennis courts.

The club believes in making tennis accessible for everyone and continues to offer a very reasonable membership rate. In fact, one of the cheapest in Norfolk!

Adult: £40, Family: £85,

Junior: £8 primary school or £12 secondary school.

If you are interested in becoming a member and to see what coaching/club sessions are available, please visit the website;

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/greatmassinghamtennis>

We have a friendly coaching team of Jeremy, Ashley and Lorna. The Saturday morning junior coaching is very popular and will continue throughout the summer holidays.

The new session for beginners has proved so popular that we are thinking about starting another one. If you are interested in learning to play, then please contact:

Jeremy Hodges on 07789 223 791 or email: jmhodges37@aol.com

Ali Ward



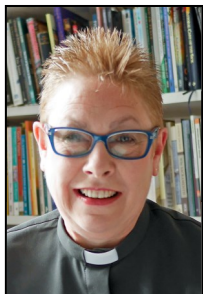
KING CHARLES III MEDALS PRESENTED TO THE CHILDREN

The School says a huge thank you to Great Massingham Parish Council for presenting all the Primary School children with a very special memento to celebrate the recent coronation of King Charles.

You can see from the expressions on the children's faces how pleased they were to receive their special gift.

The medals were presented at the end of a very pleasant sports day, held on the School field, on June 28th. An enjoyable event, well attended by parents.





**‘Very Special Thanks’ to Reverend Judith from
our two villages of Great and Little Massingham and
Great Massingham and Harpley
C of E Primary Schools Federation.**

Thank you Judith for being there for us not only across the Benefice, but also in our two villages and our Federation schools. You have been a breath of fresh air with a wealth of experience providing such kind, caring support to all who have needed it. The children at both Great Massingham and Harpley schools have benefited greatly from your input, both as a school governor and in your role as rector. Thank you for everything.

We wish you a very happy, well earned retirement and we will miss you terribly.



***Can you help with this
project to support young
adults leaving care?***

Let's Give a Giant HUG!

The Friends of St Andrew's Church Little Massingham (FOSALM) and Quilts 4 Care Leavers have joined forces to organise the stitching together of a **Giant Quilt ‘HUG’** that will be large enough to wrap around St. Andrew's Church, Little Massingham.

In the last few years FOSALM have been successfully raising vital funds to help restore the church roof after thieves stole the lead, back in 2017. The church is in desperate need of a **HUG**, but so too are the young adults who have had a difficult start in life, being brought up in care.

‘Quilts 4 Care Leavers’

provide quilted hugs for young adults who have been in care and are making their first steps into independent living, when they turn 18 (or in some cases as young as 16). This **Giant HUG** that wraps the Church will be made up from around 50 quilts (HUGs), which will be handed out to those leaving the care system. Sustainability is a key theme for this project - with the aim being to make the quilts from recycled cotton fabric. We're hoping to raise lots of money as well as provide the quilts for two good causes.

So, if you want to help make this a success by raising money for this charity and enjoy sewing, we'd love to hear from you!

Please get in touch or Donate to the project via the Friends of St. Andrew's Church website: <https://fosalm.org>



WHAT'S ON AT WESTACRE THEATRE?....

for much more information and to book
www.westacretheatre.com or TEL: 01760 755 800

School for Wives.. A sparkling new production of Moliere's hilarious and fast-paced comedy. Directed by Matt Grist 2nd, 4th & 10th August at 7:30pm. £16 for adults £10 for under 16s

The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged).. This critically acclaimed play is an irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's 37 plays! Directed by David Connor 3rd & 11th August at 7:30pm. 5th August at 3pm. £16 for adults £10 for under 16s.

As You Like It.. A lakeside, picnic-friendly, dynamic new version of Shakespeare's timeless summer story. Directed by Matt Grist & Andy Naylor 9th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 23rd, 24th, 25th & 26th August at 7:30pm. £16 for adults & £10 for under 16s.

The Pantaloon's present A Comedy of Errors.. Silly slapstick, abundant anachronisms & memorable music amongst Shakespeare's poignant poetry. Saturday 12th August at 3pm & 7:30pm. £17.50 for adults and £10 for under 16s.

Jellyfish Theatre Company present The Jungle Book.. A playful, inventive retelling of Rudyard Kipling's Mowgli stories, packed with puppetry and original music. Sunday 13th August at 2pm. £16 for adults, £10 for under 16s & £5 for under 5s.

Boxtree Productions present A Midsummer Night's Dream the musical which brings a modern voice to this classic story. Full of memorable songs and lots of energy. A production for all. Saturday 19th August at 2pm. £16 for adults & £10 for under 16s.

The Sheringham Shantymen Summer Picnic Special appearance by Norfolk's own Sheringham Shantymen. Sunday 20th August 12noon to 3pm. £12 for adults & under 10s free. On our outdoor stage! Bring a picnic!

Calf 2 Cow present The Jabberwocky & Other Nonsense Beware the Jabberwock! The jaws that bite, the claws that catch! Run for your life! Save yourself! AHHH! But is this monster really as bad as those old locals make out? **Sunday 27th August at 6pm** £16 for adults, £10 for under 16s & £5 for under 5s.

For Summer Workshop Details please see the website.



FILM NIGHT

Thursday August 17th
 7 for 7.30pm

'Empire of Light'

Starring Olivia Coleman

£5, at the Village Hall

For help with transport call
Denny 07887 927 691.



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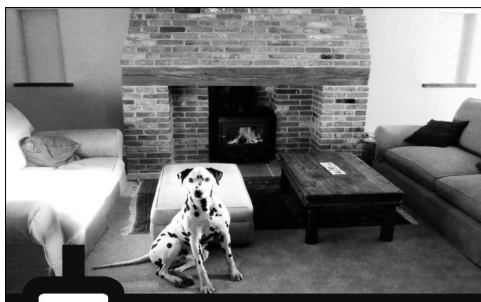
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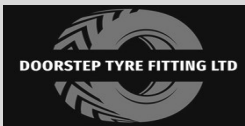
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Useful Numbers

Organisation	Contact	Phone No.
Allotment Association	Daisy Robinson	07979 723 288
Biodiversity Project	Tim Baldwin	520 813
Borough Council	Alistair Beales	To be confirmed
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	PC Clerk 01328 823391
Trefoil Guild	Shirley Rae & Rita Gostling	520 259 & 520 730
Massingham Historical Society	Jeanne Robinson	520 455
Neighbourhood Plan	Vacant	
Parish Council	Peter James (Chair) & Sarah Harvey (Clerk)	Clerk 01328 823391
Pre-School	Pip Grange	07807 185 746
Police	Non-emergency	101
School	Kirsten Stibbon	520 362
Tennis and Multi-Sports Club	Steven Gould	07557 357415
Village Hall	Hall & Bar & Debs Lambert	520 588
Village Stores and Deli	Mark and Kerry Eldridge	520 272



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Biodiversity Project News

The meadow at the Biodiversity Project was a beautiful sight during June and July with a succession of colour from the various corn field annuals. A newly sown area near the bridge, where silt from the dyke was put last year, had blue in the mix with a good proportion of cornflowers. Across most of the area, the yellow of corn marigolds became the dominant colour by mid-July, but broken up by perennials - blue meadow cranesbill and hogweed - to give extra height. Volunteers kept the meandering path clear and pulled thistles from accessible areas. We are pleased that the Parish Council plans to dredge the pond shortly and we keep our fingers crossed that the weather is co-operative!



Wild flowers have put on some particularly spectacular displays across the parish this year.

One especially good find was a large colony of clustered bellflowers beside a footpath off Lynn Lane, on the road towards Grimston. This is a rare plant in Norfolk, limited to calcareous grassland and is a *Campanula* species related to many well known garden plants such as Canterbury bells. (see left)

Tim Baldwin



Some August 2023 'Dates at a Glance'

Date	Event	Time	Place
4 August	BINGO	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall
6 August	Farewell Service to Rev' Judith	10.30 am	Grimston Church
14,21 August	Craft & Chat	2pm	Village Hall Bar
14 August	Parish Council Meeting	7.30 pm	Village Hall
17 August	Film Night	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall
18 August	Historical Society Walk & BBQ	5.30pm	At the Well
20 August	Village Yard Sale	9am to 1pm	As per plan
2,3 Sept.	Historical Society Exhibition Event	10am to 4pm	Church



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