

The Mallard

Issue 391

August 2024

MASSINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY HEATH WALK

Massingham Historical Society members and guests were privileged to enjoy two guided walks led by Tim Baldwin to Massingham Heath on June 22nd.

The weather was perfect allowing us to see the landscape and different habitats according to soil types within the Heath. We viewed fabulous wild flowers, grasses, insects, birds, wild ponies and goats.

The explosion of red poppy heads filling an entire field was exceptional. Tim explained the light harrowing of the soil last autumn had



brought the poppy seed to the surface. This in turn allowed exposure to light allowing the seed to germinate.

It was an incredibly informative morning and evening, thoroughly enjoyed by all 35 participants. We are indeed lucky to have our own expert on hand willing to share his exceptional knowledge and passion for wildlife.

We would like to thank both Little Massingham Estate for granting access and to Tim for guiding. *Jeanne Robinson*



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.

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**Deadline for the
next issue**

**17th August
2024**

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CRAFT & CHAT DATES

From 2pm to 4pm
Village Hall Bar

**Monday 5th & 19th August
Monday 2nd September**
Everyone welcome.

VILLAGE HALL BINGO

Friday 2nd August

Doors open 7 pm
Eyes down for 7.30pm

**At Great Massingham
Village Hall.**



QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 2nd August 7.30pm start
£5 per head

Mr P's Bar, Ferry Lane
Proceeds to the Food Bank
Teams of 6. Come as a team, or join one
on the night

**To register, or for more information contact
Ros on 01553 716890 or r.harre@btinternet.com**

FILM NIGHT

7 for 7.30pm

**Thursday 15th August
'The Lesson'**

starring Richard E Grant in a literary thriller.
£5 (plus a complementary drink)
at the Village Hall



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

will take place on
Saturday 21st September 2024,
between 2-4pm.

There will be a Raffle, Tombola, Tea/
coffee and homemade cakes & more!

For prize donations please contact Vicky on 07498569515.

MOBILE LIBRARY NEXT VISITS
2nd, 30th August & 27th September 2024

Outside 59 Station Rd 1.35 to 1.50 pm

Sunnyside 1.55 to 2.15 pm

Outside the Church 2.20 to 2.40 pm

Weasenham Rd 2.45 to 2.55 pm

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS

Now available at the Village Hall

MASSINGHAM
HISTORICAL SOC.

**Exploration of
St. Mary's Church**

Friday 16th Aug. 5.30pm

MEET IN CHURCHYARD

**FOLLOWED BY BBQ &
FILM "TULLY GEORGE"**

**A day in the life of
retired
farm worker**

AT VILLAGE HALL

Members Free Guests £3 Bar Open



**OPEN DAY
Saturday 17th August
10am - 3pm**

at the Magpie Centre

(Wallington Hall, South Runcton, on the A10, PE33 0EP)

Various Equine related demonstrations,
carriage rides, tombola, meet the horses, craft
stalls, children's craft tent, plus more.

Free Parking - £1 entry, under 5's free
Sorry no dogs, except service assistant dogs

Enquiries to
magpiecentrewnrda@hotmail.co.uk

SAVE THE DATE

The next **Village Hall Quiz** will be on
Thursday 26th September 2024.

Anyone who wishes to receive further information
or register for our regular newsletter of quizzes and
other village events please contact me:

robertcharlestaylor@live.com or **07908 244421**



Friends of St Andrew's Church
Little Massingham
(Raising funds for the church roof)

An evening talk highlighting...

One of 25 new national landscape recovery
projects, the West Norfolk Nature Network
stretches across 40,000 acres and several villages
including Great and Little Massingham. The talk
covers how you can become involved through
Wild East, a movement for mass participation in
nature recovery.

by
Oliver Birkbeck

~

Thursday 12th September arrive from 6.00 pm
Talk starts at 6.30 pm

There will be a retiring collection
All donations for Little Massingham Church roof

~

See more at www.fosalm.org

Held at St Andrew's Church Lt Massingham PE32 2JT

FOSALM

A talk given by Oliver Birkbeck on the
12th September at Saint Andrew's
Church Little Massingham. Arrive at 6.00
pm, the talk begins at 6:30 pm.

The evening talk highlights one of 25 new
national landscape recovery projects, the
West Norfolk Nature Network stretches
across 40,000 acres and several villages
including Great and Little Massingham.

The talk covers how you can become
involved through Wild East, a movement
of mass participation in nature recovery.

This talk is organised by FOSALM.org
there will be a retiring collection in aid of
the church roof.

WANTED:

Adult size shoe boxes, please.
These are for me to fill for the shoe box
Appeal. **Jenny Borley**

Rural Crimes Police Officer Contact

PC Chris Shelley 07900 407 106
Christopher.shelley@norfolk.police.uk



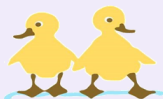
PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS?

Would you like the opportunity to talk French in an informal group?

Carole Ventham, French born but living in UK since early childhood, and Malcolm Tibble are considering settling up a free, relaxed chat group that will appeal to people of all levels of fluency.

And since inhibitions are reduced with a glass of something in hand, we plan to meet at the Dabbling Duck. We hope to hold the first gathering of “Le Cercle Francais” in late September or early October. The Dabbling Duck have agreed, in principle, to set aside a quiet space for us – probably on a mid-week afternoon.

If you are interested, please contact me, Malcolm Tibble, by email malcolmtibble@hotmail.co.uk indicating your preference, if any, for timing.



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UNVEILING OF COMMEMORATIVE NEEDLEWORK AT CENTENARY AFTERNOON TEA

Scilla Latham unveils a commemorative needlework created by the Craft & Chat Group at the Centenary Afternoon Tea. Scilla is the Great Granddaughter of Charles Dewar, our benefactor who gave the land the Village Hall is built on.

This followed on after an exhibition by Massingham Historical Society of photographs plotting the history of the Hall revealing how Mr. Dewar's idea of building the Hall using voluntary village labour came to fruition. Almost 20 years later the Hall burnt down and 2 old RAF Huts were commissioned for use by the village.

The Hall as we know it now was rebuilt around 1954. An incredible feat, and all thanks to Mr. Charles Dewar.



NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN COMMUNICATION DAY

The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group would ask that you save the **date 19th October.**

The NDP will set out the vision for our parish and the planning policies for the use and development of land within our village for the foreseeable future.

The NDP must be considered before any planning is proposed by the Borough Council and gives you the chance to shape and influence the spaces and buildings without our community, what this could look like and the infrastructure needed to support the future needs of our community.

The Steering Group have been working away quietly looking at and assessing your feedback and data from the previous two events. We have identified ways forward and areas for development that will be of interest to our community and would like to share these with you for your feedback before we progress to the next stage.

The third stage of the NDP is to further develop objectives and policies to include in the final report before it is put to the village for consideration and approval.

Please look in the Mallard for future updates or on the website - www.greatmassinghamndp.co.uk

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For advice you can trust

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Email: nealedavies4@gmail.com

SUPPORT NEEDED FOR PLAY AREA ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

The Parish Council is currently investigating options and pricing to replace the existing platform roundabout with a modern equivalent. We aim to complete this upgrade during the current year.

To assist with the costs associated with the supply and installation of the new roundabout and the necessary safety surfacing, we intend to apply for funding from the National Lottery Awards for All programme.

Community Support for Funding Application

A crucial part of our funding application requires us to demonstrate strong community support for the project. While we will be reaching out to various community groups, County Councillor, and Borough Councillor for their letters of support, additional letters from residents will be particularly valuable.

Invitation for Letters of Support

We invite all parishioners, especially those with children or grandchildren who regularly use the play area, to support our funding bid. Your letters of support will significantly strengthen our application and help us succeed in securing the necessary funding.

Please email your letters of support to gmparishclerk@gmail.com

Alternatively, you can send your letters to: Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creake, NR21 9PW

Privacy Note: Please note that names and addresses will be redacted unless you expressly give consent for your information to be shared.

Range of Options and Pricing: We are considering three different options for the new roundabout, with equipment prices ranging from approximately £8,344 to £14,610.

Option One: Turnstile Carousel



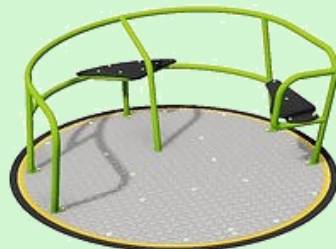
With a diameter of 1.3m this Carousel Roundabout offers a playing experience unlike any other, with a central ring for children to hold on tight whilst spinning around together. Like all roundabouts these provide endless fun for children whilst playing together, working together and improving their balance.

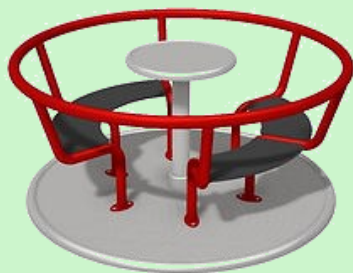
Type of Safety Surfacing: Black Wetpour
Cost: £8,344.00

Option Two: Spinmee Inclusive Roundabout

The Spinmee Inclusive Roundabout is accessible to those with mobility impairments as well as wheel-chair users. Its rotating base is flush with the surrounding safety surface allowing for easy transition between the surfaces. The design of the roundabout allows for both seated and standing users while also featuring 2 locations that can securely accommodate wheelchairs.

Type of Safety Surfacing: Black Wetpour
Cost: £14,610.00





Option Three: Carousel Roundabout

With a diameter of 1.4m the Carousel Roundabout offers a playing experience unlike any other in the playground. Carousel Roundabouts are an ideal place for children to interact with one another and develop social skills and work as a team ... all whilst having a fun time.

Type of Safety Surfacing: Black Wetpour
Cost: £8,570.00

Your support is crucial for the success of this project. We appreciate your participation and look forward to your enthusiastic backing to enhance our community play area.

Thank you for your support.

Great Massingham

YARD SALES

**SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH
2024**



ENTRY FEE £5. MAPS £1
AVAILABLE AT THE
VILLAGE SHOP FROM 10TH
AUGUST. NO TRADERS

**9:00AM
-1.00 PM**

FOR BOOKINGS - CALL or TEXT
07387007148

VILLAGE YARD SALES 2024

We are pleased to announce that the village yard sales will take place again. This very popular event is always well supported and draws interest from local residents and visitors to the village. As before residents are able to host their own yard sale at home or occupy a pitch on the village green.

To take part we ask sellers for a modest pitch fee of just £5. The proceeds collected from the event will be donated to a local cause as yet to be identified.

Entrants are asked to register with the event coordinator by 10th August. A map of the village identifying the location of yard sales including those on the green will be produced a sold via the village shop at £1 each.

Entries to coordinator

Graham Woodcock -
gjwoodcock@hotmail.co.uk
or call/text 07387007148

YOU NEED TO BE SEEN AT THE STALL ON THE GREEN

Run by Massingham Historical Society

On Saturday 24th August,
9.00 am to 12 noon

Bric-a-brac, clothes, glasses, kitchenware, cakes, plus much more.

Books, postcards and greeting cards of
Massingham in times gone by will also be available.

Unfortunately, the July stall was cancelled due to heavy rain.



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

Here is a brief summary of 'What's on and When' in August.

Westacre Theatre Company present: Bleak Expectations

8/9/10/14/15/16/17/21/22/23/24 August - 7:30pm Tickets Adults £16 & Under 16s £10

The Pantaloons present Robin Hood

Saturday 10 August 2pm Tickets Adults £16 & Under 21s £10

The DixieMix Jazz Band

Sunday 11 August 12pm - 3pm All tickets £12 & Under 10s FREE

Boxtree Productions present The Wind in the Willows

Saturday 17 August 2pm Tickets Adults £16 & Under 21s £10

Westacre Theatre Company presents Westacre Theatre Summer Picnic

Sunday 18 August 12 - 3pm All tickets £12 & Under 10s FREE

A Musical Storytime We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Friday 23 August 10:30am & 12pm All tickets £8

The Sheringham Shantymen Summer Picnic

Sunday 34 August 12pm - 3pm All tickets £12 & Under 10s FREE

for much more information and to book

www.westacretheatre.com or TEL: 01760 755 007

GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting on 8th July saw the attendance of seven councillors, twelve public members, Borough Councillor Alistair Beales, and County Councillor Stuart Dark. Key points discussed included:

New Parish Councillor: Peter Harries was co-opted and welcomed to the Council, to join from the August meeting.

Public Rights of Way (PROW): Concerns about the frequency of cutting were addressed. Norfolk County Council cuts PROWs twice a year. The first cut for Great Massingham is complete, with the second round starting on 8th July, to be completed within six weeks. County Councillor Stuart Dark agreed to investigate this issue further. For issues on PROWs, reports can be made via Norfolk County Council's website, and updates can be tracked through a My Norfolk account.

Play Area: The equipment has been deep cleaned. The Council is considering a regular cleaning schedule and will be providing covers for swing seating.

Village Ponds: Actions were agreed to manage vegetation and create fishing pitches around Scotsman's Pit. Two new swims will be added, and vegetation around other ponds will be cleared to improve views and biodiversity.

Parish Council Website: Residents are encouraged to visit the website for meeting agendas, minutes, and information on reporting local issues, such as streetlighting, highway issues and dog fouling incidents. If you can't find what you are looking for please do contact the Clerk Sarah Harvey, who will happily assist you.

Classics on the Green (1st June): The event raised £1,175 for Wings for Life and £525 for local causes.

Next Meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall on **12th August at 7.30pm**. To see this month's full article please visit the Parish Council website www.greatmassingham-pc.info and go to the 'News' page.

To contact the Clerk, Sarah Harvey telephone 01328 823391, email gmparishclerk@gmail.com or Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creake, NR21 9PW.

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AFTERNOON TEA WITH THE DONKEYS

Our afternoon Tea with the donkeys really was a lovely afternoon despite the weather! Everyone loved the donkeys and a few people even took them on short walks between the showers.

The afternoon raised a total of £300 which in two hours was amazing.

Many thanks to all who helped baking cakes and serving on the day but most of all to all those who turned out to support us.

AFTERNOONS TEAS

We have had a lovely response since starting teas once again after such a long break.

Meet both old friends and new while enjoying a cuppa and of course cake. Everyone is welcome to join us between **2:30 - 4pm every Wednesday.**

NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST ANNUAL BIKE RIDE

Thank you so much to everyone who took part in the 2023 Bike Ride – it was hot but we hope you had a great day out and enjoyed visiting our wonderful churches. Norfolk Churches Trust received a grand total of £129,373 in sponsorship money.

This year the Bike Ride will be on **Saturday 14th September.**

You can register online and access all the information you need to take part at **www.norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk**

WALKING AROUND THE PARISHES

Our next event is on **SATURDAY 24th AUGUST 3.00 pm** East Walton

See the re-wilding project with refreshments at Abbey Farm at 4.30 pm.

More details of any of the walks from Rev'd Sue Martin at revdsuemartin@gmail.com or Rosemary Mehers on 07720 971753



All activities including refreshments will be free of charge.

Come along & join up with friends for a cuppa while the children have fun together enjoying the activities.

All children must be accompanied by an adult

HARVEST SUPPER

This is an advance notice of St Mary's Church Harvest Supper. Delicious meal with entertainment, fun and laughter.

**Saturday 21 September, 7pm
in the village hall.**

More details in September Mallard.



THE MATTHEW BASON MUSICAL VARIETY CONCERT

At St Botolph Grimston
on **Friday 27th September
2024 at 7.30pm**

Tickets are priced at £10 and will include drink and nibbles available from

**David Ellis 01553 674286 or
Joy Smith 01485 600402.**

Date	Time	Service	Location
Sunday 4th August <i>10th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.30 am 10.30 am	Family Service Holy Communion	Harpley Grimston
Wednesday 7th August	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
Sunday 11th August <i>11th Sunday after Trinity</i>	8.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Holy Communion Songs of Praise	Congham Little Massingham Gayton Great Massingham
Sunday 18th August <i>12th Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Sung Eucharist Morning Praise Holy Communion	Harpley Grimston Great Massingham
Wednesday 21st August	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Grimston
Sunday 25th August <i>13th Sunday after Trinity</i>	8.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Celtic Service	Ashwicken Gayton Great Massingham Little Massingham Gayton Thorpe
Sunday 1st September <i>14th Sunday after Trinity</i>	8.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Songs of Praise	Roydon Harpley Grimston Little Massingham
Wednesday 4th September	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
For more news and alterations to services please visit our benefice website at www.ggmbenefice.uk			

NEW BROWN BIN FOR CHURCHYARD



The PCC have agreed to provide a brown bin for the churchyard. The Borough Council have insisted **no plastic flowers, oasis or wire frame-works**. We have a green bin which is only for the normal recyclable items. This is being currently abused and we are having to sort before any collection. Please take care to use the bins correctly. The black bin is still there for non recyclable items.

Stephen Hudson, Churchwarden

ST MARY'S COMMUNITY FOOD BANK.

The food bank is very well used, which shows us how difficult things still are for people. A number of people using the food bank are working families who despite working hard do not have enough, come the end of the month, to manage after paying ever increasing household bills.

Donations are always most welcome and can be left at the back of Church or the box inside the Church porch. A list of some of our most needed items are: Baked Beans, Tinned or instant custard, Sugar, Tea bags, Coffee, Tinned veg and meats.

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Useful Contacts

Organisation	Contact	Phone No/Email Address
Allotment Association	Daisy Robinson	07979 723 288
Biodiversity Project	Tim Baldwin	520 813
Borough Councillor	Alistair Beales	cllr.alistair.beales@west-norfolk.gov.uk
Bell Ringing	Dale Gagen	520 024
Bowls Club	Peter Wadham	520 796
Church Contacts	Stephen Hudson	520 450
Community Car Scheme	Office	520 823
Coronation Club	Jill Whitmore	520 609
County Councillor	Stuart Graham Dark	07450 679 355
Craft & Chat	Sue Nash	520 476 & 07802670711
Dabbling Duck Pub	Mark Dobby	520 827
Doctors	Massingham Surgery	520 521
The Film Night	Arthur Allen	07810 042816
Fishing Warden	Connor Macleod	PC Clerk 01328 823391
Trefoil Guild	Rita Gostling	520 730
Massingham Historical Society	Jeanne Robinson	520 455
Neighbourhood Plan	Jess Cunningham	gmndplan@yahoo.com
Parish Council	Sarah Harvey (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



During June we were pleased to have a new oak sleeper bench installed to look over the pond from the green. This view will be kept open with lower growing marginal plants along the pond edge here. Some have been planted from elsewhere but it has also been interesting to see some colonise, showing that seed had lain dormant for some time and has now taken advantage of the newly bare ground which suits them. Examples include celery-leaved buttercup, pink water speedwell, redshank and trifold bur marigold – this is not a common plant in Norfolk and rarely occurs away from rivers.

With a healthier pond, there is now more life to be seen in and around it. From the new bench in just a few

minutes last month I noted three of the larger dragonfly species, including this broad-bodied chaser.

The meadow has given a good display this year, starting in May and held up well until some heavy rain in mid-July.

We are grateful to both the Parish Council and the Village Fund for funding which has enabled us to provide the new bench.

Tim Baldwin



Some August 2024 'Dates at a Glance'

Date	Event	Time	Place
2 August	BINGO	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall
2/30 August	Mobile Library Visits	1.35pm to 2.55pm	See page 2
5/19 August	Craft & Chat	2pm to 4pm	Village Hall Bar
6/13/20 August	Summer Fun Activities	1.30pm to 3.30pm	St Mary's Church
7/14/21/28 August	Afternoon Tea	2.30pm to 4pm	St Mary's Church
12 August	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
15 August	Film Night	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall
16 August	Historical Society	7.30pm	Village Hall
18 August	Village Yard Sales	9.00am to 1.00pm	See page 9
24 August	Stall on the Green	9.00am to 12 noon	Village Green