

The Mallard

Issue 366

May 2022



Events taking place at Great Massingham Village Hall
to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

- Thursday 2nd June Community Lunch at 1pm (see page 9)
Afternoon matinée performance of nostalgic
films followed by tea and cake.
- Friday 3rd June Prize BINGO
- Saturday 4th June Gert & Daisy Quiz
- Sunday 5th June Fun Day starting at 1 pm
Various sports including Football, Tennis and
Bowls
Fancy Dress Competition (see details below)
BBQ
Live Music

Further details to be confirmed nearer the time in the June Mallard



Great Massingham Village Hall

is hosting a

Children's **Fancy Dress Competition** as
part of the Village Jubilee Celebrations, on
Sunday, June 5th, 2022

Open to children up to and including Year 6.
Prizes for Pre-School / EYFS,
Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Entry details.....Outfits should be homemade,
with a Jubilee theme.

We can't wait to see what you can do!

*Timings will be published with the main timetable of
events, nearer the time. Get busy NOW!*



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 May**

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Coronation Club

We are pleased to say that we have started up again after a very long, two year break. It was lovely to meet and catch up with everyone. Some members have had a very long, hard and lonely time.

On June 4th we are planning to have a picnic on the green (weather permitting – if not it will be in the Hall) in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. Please come and join us, you don't have to be a member but we would very much like to meet people and have a chat and laugh – something that has very much been missed. It would be lovely to have young and old mixing again.

We are hoping to have a Bingo up the Hall on Monday July 18th to raise funds so we can take our members out for Christmas lunch.

If you would like to join our Club, please just turn up to one of our meetings in the Village Hall Bar and you will be made very welcome. We now meet on the last Tuesday of every month instead of the last Wednesday. Membership is £10 per year and £2 for each meeting. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits or buns, a catch up with friends and village gossip! We play cards, bingo, have little quizzes and a good time.

Will be lovely to see you., Jill and Liz

Many thanks from Glenda and Geordie....

Thank you for all the gifts, cards and the many beautiful flowers given to us to celebrate our 60th Wedding Anniversary and Glenda's birthday.

*You are all so kind.
Many, many thanks.*

Geese

What a brilliant job Jon Cole has done keeping the geese numbers so low this year.

You may see an odd one or two but that's it. Well done Jon! *Bob Nash*

Grimston Creative Arts

Local artists' exhibition runs until 2nd May, 10am to 4pm daily.

Why not give it a visit?

Bowls BINGO is a Huge Success. Thank you.

I would like to thank everyone who supported the Great Massingham Bowls Club bingo on the 8th April.

Also, a very big thank you to all who donated prizes and helped on the day. We made the fantastic amount of £1,235! *Alison Gagen*

Village Hall, May Events

4th May

Creative Arts East session from 1 to 3pm. Please see page 3 and the insert delivered with this month's Mallard. This is a taster session. Why not give it a try?

7th May

Thai Night at the Village Hall. The Pop Up Thai Restaurant will be at the Village Hall on the 7th from 4 pm to 8 pm.

Please support these events.

Tree Planting in Great Massingham

At the request of residents for some commemorative trees to be planted in Great Massingham, the Parish Council have very kindly funded three trees.

These have been planted by members of the Parish Council and the Biodiversity Group. The trees and locations are:-

On Scotsman's Pit, there is a Rowan, in memory of Capt. Sir Tom Moore.

On Post Office pit, a Himalayan Birch, to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

On the Weasenham Road green, in front of the Biodiversity site, A Silver Birch in memory of HRH Prince Phillip.

The trees have been carefully selected, not only for their value to wildlife, but also their structure and appearance, as they will serve to enhance our village for generations to come. Suitable plaques are to be sourced to identify the trees and the reasons for their planting.



GREAT MASSINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

News from the Steering Group.. THE OPINION SURVEY – WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Following a two-week extension, the NDP Opinion Survey is now closed. Thanks to everyone who took part. The responses will give us a clear idea of what residents value most, what improvements are needed and what their concerns are for the future. A few days before Easter, over 250 forms had been returned. This equates to roughly 50% of households or 25% of the estimated population of over-18s. This level of participation is a comparatively healthy one and similar to that experienced by other NDPs.

In the weeks ahead, we will enter all the information into a computer-based spreadsheet, identify the issues raised and quantify the numbers of people who mentioned them. We will also be able to see how concerns are influenced by age group and length of time respondents have lived in Great Massingham. When a clear picture emerges, we will summarise the findings for *The Mallard* and post a more comprehensive account of the survey on the NDP website (<https://www.greatmassinghamndp.co.uk>).

Mike Jackson on behalf of the Parish Council's NDP Steering Group.



FILM NIGHT

Thursday May 19th

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

'King Richard'

American biographical sports drama film.

If you need help getting to and from Film Night, call **Denny 07887 927598**. We'll do our best to help.

Massingham Historical Society

AGM Friday 13th May at 7.30pm

at the Village Hall.

Includes **FREE** film show entitled 'The Lost Railways of East Anglia'.

Come and help us organise the year ahead.

Note the date....Classics Cars on the Green,

Great Massingham. Raising money for Cancer Research UK, UNICEF Ukraine and local Causes. **Saturday 18th June 12 - 4pm.**

Creative Arts East... FREE taster day at the Village Hall on 4th May. The taster workshops provide participants insight into the award-winning 'Our Day Out' programme and wellbeing project for those aged 50+. A professional artist will invite the group to try some inclusive music and/or dancing inspired activities, and exciting jubilee themed activities! No prior experience is needed, and participants can engage in as little or as much as they would like. Please see the flyer delivered with this Mallard.

Interested in YOGA? Why not try these classes?

Slow Flow Yoga classes on Wednesday mornings at Helhoughton Village Hall.

Lead by local teacher Debbie Wingell, these classes are suitable for all levels and incorporate a slow vinyasa flow with a focus on mindful movement.

If you are looking for a way to enhance your physical and mental wellbeing,
gently maintain mobility and strength or
simply create a little time and space for yourself,
these could be the perfect classes for you.

Debbie believes passionately that yoga really **IS** for all and that a yoga practice should never be about making our bodies fit the shapes but, rather, creating the shapes in ways that suit our bodies. Having begun her own practice to help manage her mental health, Debbie's teaching covers the 8 Limbs of Yoga to enable students to further develop their own mental, as well as physical, self-care.

Debbie's classes continue to include some Covid safety measures and, due to the ongoing pandemic, 'drop ins' are discouraged at this time, so please contact Debbie on 07857 449 113 or yoga@debbiewingell.com to book your place, or for more information.

In addition, if there is enough interest in Great Massingham, Debbie would be happy to run a weekday morning class here in the village. So please do drop her a line to register your interest if you would like to see this happen.

Great Massingham Primary school
The winners of the March Draw 2022



1st prize – Pam Lawson
2nd prize – Alison Johns
3rd prize – Chelsea Lunn



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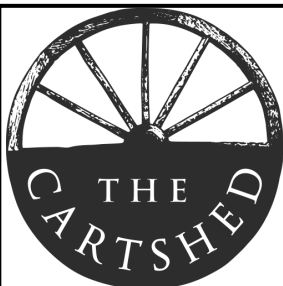
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FOSPGM (Friends of Scotsman's Pit Great Massingham)

Latest News

It's that wonderful time of the year. Spring is here and everywhere is blooming with life and joy. Come on out and enjoy the new wild plants and listen to the birdsong.

But..... whilst near the Pit, please be careful.

The area around the Pit bank is deteriorating and there are signs of recent collapse.

Please take care and do not get too close to the edge.

The FOSPGM team are busy adding support to the bank but, until this is completed and the plant roots established, the edge will remain a high-risk area. Of particular concern are mobility vehicles and vulnerable people.

Please be careful and maintain a safe distance away for any edges.

Jexx Plant of Kings Lynn recently completed a Bathymetric Survey of the Pit! In simpler terms it is a depth of water and silt survey.

A few observations on this Bathymetric survey of Scotsman's Pit are as follows:

1. This is very good useful scientific data, that will be useful going forward.
2. We believe the survey indicates that there is no immediate urgency to de-silt the pit.
3. However, this survey was taken with the water level at its maximum depth. The level can only decrease.
4. Until all the bank erosion has been addressed the silt level can only get deeper.
5. With the above situation, the cubic area of water for aquatic life will decrease.

A copy of the plan produced by Jexx and FOSPGM's recommendations from the plan will be included in the next Mallard. Generally the group feel everything is positive.

Bob Bones on behalf of FOSPGM

Biodiversity Project News

Spring moves into top gear as May begins and the various habitats at the Biodiversity

Project will change very rapidly, as new vegetation emerges.

Cow parsley will begin flowering through the woodland and this year there is a good growth of red campion in the corner of the wood behind the meadow. Look out too

for green alkanet, cowslips, wild garlic and yellow archangel.

Volunteers had a busy time at the April working party morning and a variety of tasks were completed, including planting a new silver birch tree on the green to mark the life of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh (see page 3). Appropriately enough, Louis Carroll, one of our volunteers, has been working on a variety of environmental tasks both here, at Scotsman's Pit and on the

playing field, for the past eight months, as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award – well done, Louis!



Volunteers have also divided the snowdrop clumps and yellow iris, cleared fallen timber and added further seed to the meadow. Cornflowers, corncockle and clustered bellflower have been sown to add to the seed bank of corn chamomile and corn marigold that should be developing

into seedling plants by now, although they will have to take their chances against the appetites of the excessive duck population. Fingers crossed that enough survive to give a good show this summer!

Our next working party is on Saturday May 14th at 10 am when one of the less glamorous tasks will be to remove some of the silt and winter debris from the dyke!

As always, new volunteers will be most welcome.

Tim Baldwin

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Spring Fever Breaks out at the Well!

Villagers assembled at the Well on 9th April both for the Village Spring Clean and also for the Stall on the Green to raise money for the Food Bank. It was a crisp, sunny, spring day.

The 'Stalls on the Green' raised a wonderful total of £315 for our Church Food Bank. Thank you to everyone who came and supported. This will go a long way towards helping the ever increasing demand.

Andrew Bickerton reports on the Spring Clean

A Really Rubbish Day!

Despite a chill wind, Saturday 9th April saw **twenty-nine volunteers assemble at the Well** to pick up the rubbish that had accumulated during the past two years. A wide area both in and around Great Massingham was covered. It was good to see a number of children taking part as well as meeting people new to the village.

The clean-up kit was given by the KL&WNBC as a reward for our annual litter picks over a number

of years. Many thanks to the following: *Annie Lawton, Sandy Francis, Trish Thornton, Ian, Mary, Freddie, Archie and Isabelle Castle, Maria and Keith Gaskell, Paul Harris, Tim Baldwin, Arthur Allen, Ali and Phil Ward, Peter James, Chris Carroll, Michelle Barrett, Tony, Joules, Lucy and Jemima Lodge, Jess and Gordon Cunningham, Denny Winner, Clare and Neil Lathrope, Clive Casburn, Rosemary Bickerton, Bev Randall and also The Dabbling Duck for providing coffee, tea and biscuits for us. Many thanks as well to Susie Martin who did her litter-pick earlier and the unstoppable Julian who has retrieved 241 bottles from our verges since the beginning of the year.*

The full, blue rubbish bags were deposited by the Well for collection by the Borough Clean-up team. We might do another 'clean up' in the autumn, if it is needed.

'All's Well That Ends Well' to quote a well-known scribbler!



Annie and Sandy take charge of the old telephone kiosk which hadn't had a makeover in years.



Everyone assembles for the Spring Clean to be given their instructions and collect their equipment.



'Stalls on the Green' were very busy.



Jubilee Community Lunch Great Massingham Village Hall Thursday June 2nd

Arrive 12.30 and eat at 1pm

Come and meet friends for a chat.

The bar will be open to buy drinks



MENU: Special Jubilee Price of £5

1950's lunch: Coronation Chicken, pork pie, scotch eggs, cheese & onion flan. All served with crusty bread and salads. Followed by Sherry trifle, tea and coffee.

Film Club will be showing some nostalgic local films after lunch.

You are very welcome to stay and watch (no extra charge)

*To order a lunch, please write down your name on a piece of paper and post it in the village hall post box, next to the entrance. Or email mrsdl1965@gmail.com with your name. We do not need your menu choice as it is a buffet. Cut off day is **Friday May 27th***

BIN DAY CHANGE

THURSDAY From 9th May

Your Black and Green bin days will change from Wednesday to Thursday. The time your bin is emptied might also change so put them out early (7am)!

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May Mobile Library Visits
3rd & 31st May from 12.35, as timetabled.

APRIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Six Parish Councillors attended along with six members of the public.

The appointment of the Internal Auditor was approved.

Following an approach from the Village Hall, the Parish Council agreed to donate £720 to assist with the costs for the celebratory events to be organised over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. We hope an enjoyable time is had by all.

The water survey organised by FOSPGM has been undertaken at Scotsman's Pit and the report has been submitted to the Council. (See FOSPGM report on page 6)

The newly formed Great Massingham Community Garden (GMCG) continues to progress with their proposals. The next intended stage of the plan is to spray off the area and then proceed with seeding work, which may be carried out in May.

Possible options to improve parking on and around the village greens is to be investigated. Any feasible options will need to be approved by Houghton Estate as the Lessor.

Norfolk County Council are in the process of planning and undertaking work to bund the verges to the greens leading to the junction opposite St Mary's Church. Bollards would also be installed on two of the corners of the triangular section. The work is scheduled for May. A programme of repair work is also to be carried out at Rectory Green, Weasenham Road, to level and reseed sunken areas, also scheduled for May.

The commemorative planting of three trees for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee has been carried out. (see page 3) Appropriate plaques will be put in place in the near future.

Commemorative mugs will also be purchased by the Parish Council and presented to all children attending the Pre-school and Primary School.

Next Meetings will be on Monday 9th May, 2022

The Annual Parish Meeting will begin at 7pm. The May Parish Council Meeting will then begin once the former meeting has concluded (around 7.30pm).

The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting of all local government electors for the Parish and members of the public are entitled to attend and participate.

The Great Massingham Village Hall and

Institute Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall CIO was held at the Hall on Tuesday 22nd March. The main purpose was to elect the Trustees who are charged with overseeing and directing the Village Hall for the benefit of the people of Great Massingham and neighbouring villages. Thank you to those who attended and voted.

The election was presided over by Chris Davison who was charged with distributing, collecting and subsequently counting and announcing the vote. The following people from the village were elected as Trustees – Tina Andrew, Diane Curson, Maxine Pratt, Philip Ward and Vaughan Woodbridge. They join the Trustees nominated by affiliated bodies - Kim Frazer (Parish Council), Deb Lambert (The Hall Bar) and Jim Ryan (MultiSports and Tennis Club). Trustees representing the Bowls Club and the Football Club (when they are up and running again) have yet to be nominated.

The CIO was registered in February 2020 with the plan to hold this AGM and transfer from the Charity to the CIO with the nomination and election of Trustees, in May 2020.

The pandemic restrictions sadly delayed this process. The existing business of the Charity will be transferred to the CIO and in due course the existing Charity will be closed.

Following the AGM the first Trustees Meeting of the CIO elected Vaughan Woodbridge as Secretary and Philip Ward as Chair of Trustees.

The Hall Bar will continue to be administered by the Community Interest Company (CIC) with the CIC Directors appointed by the Trustees of the CIO. The main purpose of the CIC is to maintain and improve the Hall Bar for members and guests and to provide funds for the CIO.

Trustees of the CIO

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Message for Parishioners from Reverend Judith



Forty years ago, I was excited to be working in my first job after college - at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. An exciting new venture had recently started – the World Snooker Championship. At the Crucible, the stage is centrally positioned with seating all around, making it an ideal venue for both spectators and television cameras. We noticed a big change in the nature of audiences - now largely composed of people visiting a theatre for the first time. Bar takings went up massively. The World Championship was a celebration of the skill and dedication of many genuine popular heroes such as Alex ‘Hurricane’ Higgins and Ronnie ‘The Rocket’ O’Sullivan, the latter still playing today.

As in any sport, the combination of physical fitness, dedicated practice, mental agility and strategic thinking make snooker a compelling spectator sport. It is, however, the inherent drama in every frame and the personal dimension – the life stories of the players and the many challenges they have overcome - that give Snooker its wide and enduring appeal.

My son Jacob is a number one fan of the game. People can engage with Snooker on so many levels, from spectating and enjoying the incessant but informative and amusing punditry to, perhaps, playing in local leagues. There is a Snooker Club – ‘The Maltings’ - in King’s Lynn and our Village Hall in Great Massingham has a snooker room and club – as do, I’m certain, many other local venues.

The World Snooker Championship is the oldest and the best competition, although the number of Snooker tournaments now on offer is huge – Jacob tells me that there is usually a competition taking place somewhere in the world, especially now that Snooker has become really popular in China and the Far East.

It is so important that we have sporting (and other) heroes to inspire us. We take our energy and inspiration from a multitude of people and situations over our lifetime. Our heroes remind us, importantly, that nothing worth doing is achieved lightly; we may have to make huge sacrifices in order to achieve excellence in sport, our line of work or in another aspect of life, whatever that may be.

I’m reminded of a verse from my early Sunday school life: ‘When the one brave scorer comes to write against your name, he writes not how you’ve won or lost - but how you’ve played the game.’ Amen to that.

Have a wonderful flower-filled May, With my love and blessings, Reverend Judith

Your Local Cub Pack 8th King’s Lynn (Grimston) Needs Help

Grimston has a very successful and vibrant Cub Pack, that also includes young people from the surrounding villages. Our current Cub Leaders, both of whom have given over twenty-five years’ service, plan to step back in July 2023. We are therefore on the search for volunteers. It would be sad to have to close.

Cubs are aged from 8 to 11 years, they are lively and fun to be with and volunteering in Scouting is very rewarding, as well as enjoyable. All volunteers are welcome. Experience is not a requirement as training and support will be provided.

*If you or anyone you know is interested in this opportunity,
please contact:*

Oli Kivlin 07525 324955 or email akela8thkl@gmail.com

Westacre Theatre

The Theatre offers a full programme of exciting events during May such as ‘**Absent Friends**’ and ‘**Under Lockdown in Milk Wood**’ and various exciting workshops.

There wasn’t space this month to advertise everything but please see the website

*www.westacretheatre.com
or call 01760 755 800*

Church Services

May

Date	Time	Service	Location
Sunday 1 st May	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong	Roydon Harpley Little Massingham Grimston Congham
Wed. 4 th May	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
Sunday 8 th May	8.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Lay-led Morning Prayer Holy Communion Holy Communion	Congham Little Massingham Gayton Great Massingham
Sunday 15 th May	9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am	Sung Eucharist Family Holy Communion Morning Praise	Harpley Great Massingham Grimston
Wed. 18 th May	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Grimston
Sunday 22 nd May	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Holy Communion	Ashwicken Great Massingham Little Massingham Gayton
Thurs. 26 th May <i>Ascension Day</i>	6.30 pm	Ascension Service	Ashwicken
Sunday 29 th May	10.30 am 4.00 pm	Holy Communion Afternoon Tea Service	Roydon Gayton
Wed. 1 st June	9.00 am	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Harpley</i>

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

Wedding Congratulations



9th April 2022 at
St Andrew's Church
Little Massingham
Fergus Hardy and Georgina Eliot
Many congratulations to you both.

Wednesday afternoon Friendship Group.

The Group will start again on
Wednesday 11th May
at 2.30 in the Church.

Everyone is welcome to come along for a
cuppa with cake and catch-up.
Please join us.



Great Massingham TREFOIL GUILD COFFEE EVENING

Thursday May 12th at 7pm

In aid of local charities and held
at Great Massingham Village Hall
Stalls, raffle, tombola, games, quiz.

PLEASE JOIN US.

We are keen to welcome new members.
Please come along on this evening to
meet people and support.

*Any questions, Please call Rita Gosling
on 01485 520 730*

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Saturday 3.45pm to 11pm

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 Grange	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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Vic Cross – A Well-Deserved Recognition Dinner

A 'Recognition Dinner' was held at the Village Hall, on Sunday 3rd April, to recognise the tireless and voluntary service Vic Cross has provided to the Village Hall to ensure it is maintained as a vital village amenity.

Vic was a Member of the Management Committee at the Village Hall and Social Club for over thirty years and, more recently, a Trustee of the Hall Charity and a Director of the Community Interest Company that oversees the Hall Bar. He was also the personal licence holder of the bar for over twenty of those years.

During that time, the Village Hall has gone from strength to strength as an indispensable part of the community life of the Village.

The facilities at the Hall are used by The Parish Council, the Coronation Club, the Trefoil Guild, the famous Sunday Auction, Community Lunches, Film Night, The Bowls Club, The Tennis and MultiSports Club, Move It or Lose It, The Historical Society, Community Cars, St Mary's Church, The Snooker and Billiards Club, The School, Quiz Night, Craft and Chat and for dances, amateur dramatic productions and numerous one-off events from wedding breakfasts and birthday parties to funeral wakes.

All these events owe some part of their being and longevity to Vic's selfless stewardship and they all play a huge part in the creation of the extraordinarily strong community spirit that makes Great Massingham one of the most attractive and pleasant places in Norfolk to live. The different organisations and families, both in our Village and the neighbouring Village Hub it serves, all depend upon the Hall as the place to meet.



The Hall's success relies upon the unpaid and dedicated efforts of many people. Of these, Vic stands out as an outstanding example of voluntary service at its very best.

Well done to Deb Lambert, Mel Whitmore, Max Pratt, Diane Curson, Tina Andrew and Sandy Francis for organising such a fabulous event – right down to the Norwich City themed decorations, and to Rod Andrew for providing the music.



Some May 2022 'Dates at a Glance'

Date	Event	Time	Place
3, 31 May	Mobile Library visits	From 12.35	As timetabled
4 May	Creative Arts East	1 - 3pm	Village Hall
7 May	Handmade Jewellery Sale	4.30 - 7pm	The Cartshed Tearoom
7 May	Thai Pop Up Restaurant	4 - 8pm	Village Hall
9, 23 May	Craft & Chat	2pm	Village Hall Bar
9 May	Parish Council (AGM and meeting)	7pm	Village Hall
12 May	Trefoil Guild Coffee Evening	7pm	Village Hall
13 May	Historical Society AGM	7.30 pm	Village Hall
14 May	Biodiversity Working Party	10am	Weasenhams Road Pond
19 May	Film Night	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall