

The Mallard

Issue 361

November 2021

Massingham Stores and Post Office wins National Award! P8

BINGO

There are two charity BINGO events in November.

Both are being held at the Village Hall

Nov. 1st Prize BINGO raising funds for 'Tapping House'
7pm for 7.30pm start

Nov. 22nd Prize BINGO raising funds for 'The Big C'
7pm, eyes down at 7.30pm
Organised by Julie Morters and Chrissie Warnes.
The 'BIC C' do great work in helping people and their families affected by cancer. Lots of lovely prizes. Look forward to seeing you there.



Below: A variety of November events for you to join in.

Pop up Restaurant

Friday November 19th

7pm to eat at 7.30 at the Village Hall

This is a fundraising event for the Hall & Bar.



MENU: Chicken, tarragon and bacon pie or

£15

Mushroom, lentil and tarragon pie.
Both served with mash & peas.

Followed by sticky toffee pudding & custard.

You must buy your tickets for the meal

before Monday November 15th

as we need to inform the caterer of numbers.

Tickets available from the Bar, card or cash.

Also from Phil Ward or Sandy Francis (cash only)

Coffee Morning
Saturday
6th November
10am - 12
St Mary's Church Gt Massingham
Homemade cakes 🍰
Tombola
Early Christmas bits
A warm welcome with good company
Please join us
Proceeds will go to our community food bank.
Please come

FILM NIGHT

Thursday November 18th

7pm for 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Minari



A Korean American family moves to an Arkansas farm in search of its own American dream.

Amidst the challenges of this new life in the strange and rugged Ozarks, they discover the undeniable resilience of family and what really makes a home.

Coming

Dec. 14th 'A Christmas gift from Bob'.

(Tuesday not Thursday)

Jan. 20th 'The Courier'

BOOK LAUNCH - 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

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Great Massingham

01485 520 899

Website : Contact the Editor - Details above.

**Deadline for the next issue
17th November**

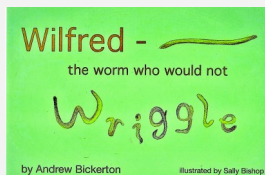
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BOOK LAUNCH NOVEMBER 13th

On Saturday 13th November
from 2pm to 4pm

Andrew Bickerton will be
launching his new children's book



**“WILFRED -
the worm who would not wriggle”**
at Great Massingham Village Hall.

Each book will cost £6.50, well below the RRP and Andrew will sign and dedicate each book sold.

Light refreshments will also be available.

Copies of his other books: 'LEAF' and 'BUMBLE' will also be available to purchase at reduced prices. These books are fun to read and educational. An ideal Christmas presents for your children and grandchildren! **Hope to see you there.
Andrew Bickerton**

Macmillan Coffee Morning

**WE ARE
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This year's even went very well. Thank you to all who contributed in the way of prizes, other donations and all who came along on the day.

We were blessed with beautiful weather which meant people could sit outside. This made a huge difference.

We made, in total, £5,220 which includes £1,560 from the yard sale & car boots and also £66 raised by the School. A special thank you to the children but also thank you to all our helpers and all who came along and supported.

Chrissie



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GREAT MASSINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

News from the Pre-steering Group



I'm pleased to report further progress with our Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). One notable step forward has been our agreeing a set of 'Terms and Conditions' with the Parish Council. This will govern how the recently appointed NDP Steering Group and its Support Group will operate under the aegis of the Parish Council. This is key, since the Parish Council is ultimately responsible for preparing and submitting our NDP and we need to be in full accord over procedural matters.

Preparation of NDPs costs money and several thousand pounds will be needed by the end. To help raise funds we have, on behalf of the Parish Council, asked for financial help from the 'Locality' organisation to cover expected costs up to 31st March 2022. By the time you read this, we hope 'Locality' will have agreed to fund us. We have also identified a qualified consultant to guide us through the preparation process and write key passages, especially the 'Policies' needed to ensure the wishes of residents are correctly and effectively framed. We've also located a professional prepared to build a web site for us at a very reasonable cost. Keeping residents well-informed is essential for a successful NDP. With this in mind, Bev Randall (*for the village web site*) and Caroline Boyden (*for the Parish Council web site*), have kindly created sections on their sites for NDP news.

See - <https://greatmassinghamparishcouncil.org> & <https://www.greatmassingham.net>

On October 4th we held the inaugural meeting of the Steering Group. The main event was a presentation given by the four people mainly responsible for preparing the Gayton and Gayton Thorpe Neighbourhood Development Plan. This was followed by a lengthy questions and answers session. It was time very well-spent.

The Steering Group will meet again on 1st November to elect a small committee to run day-to-day affairs and to plan our first consultation with residents. The outcome is likely to be a questionnaire distributed to every household and posted online asking for views on the current state of the parish and hopes for the future. A strong and informative response is highly desirable. There is likely to be a public meeting as a follow-up to the questionnaire.

We are still looking for someone to take the Minutes at Steering Group Meetings. If you would like to be at the centre of things and play a key part in recording NDP proceedings please contact me for further details.

For more information about the NDP please e-mail gmnplan@yahoo.com or telephone 01485 520 056 .

Mike Jackson on behalf of the Pre-steering Group.

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TREFOIL GUILD

Please join us for our talk on
Thursday 11th November
at 7pm at the Village Hall

Paula Hall will be giving us a talk about the **Purfleet Trust** and all the invaluable work the Trust does for homeless people. It is based in King's Lynn and supports an important, local need.

Please come along. Everyone is welcome.
It is so long since we have been able to meet.



Community Lunch

Massingham Village Hall Bar
Tuesday November 9th
 Arrive from 12.30pm, eat at 1pm



MENU:
 Slow cooked pork or Butternut & black beans,
 Both served with mashed potato & peas.
 Raspberry Pavlova or Cheese & Biscuits. **£8**
 Tea & Coffee
Come & meet friends for a chat. The Bar is open.
 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 November 5th. If you booked at the last Community Lunch you don't need to book again.

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Great Massingham Historical Society 2022 Calendar

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Next meeting of the Historical Society is 15th November at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. Please come and join us. We are looking at archive material at the moment which is very interesting.



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Gert & Daisy.... Well, how are yew awl? As we write this we are nearly in November – can't believe how quick the months hev gon. Gert and Bert hed a luvly toime in Devon and Jean was as active as ever. They hed luvly weather and managed ter sunbathe on the beach! Well, how luvly ter see the Fair back



on the green. Blast, that brort back sum memories. Gert & Bert went on the Friday noight and they hed a roide on the big wheel and the dodgems. Bert done the driving cos he's gud at gorn quick. He got cort speeding on the way hum from Devon! Bert loved the Fair so much he med Gert go back Saturday noight.

Gert saw Jenny and Paul Borley on the big wheel – they looked loike they was heving a good toime!

We dint win eny prizes so we tuk sum hot doughnuts hum. In the old days nearly everywun went hum with a goldfish! That int allowed now – how toimes change.

Daisy and Sid went on Saturday afternoon with Sid Jnr and some grandchildren – that was interesting! Daisy hed a go on the darts and won a unicorn. Brort back memories of darts noights – well nearly.

We thort that seemed very well attended so hopefully Mr Gray dun well and they'll cum back next year.

We hate ter say this but thas only just over 7 weeks til Christmas so we'll hev ter start gitting presents soon. As we have 17 grandchildren between us that'll tek us that long ter buy the presents! Last Christmas we cudnt meet up with other people so that was a quiet wun. This year we can awl git tergether but there will be no food or presents due ter the lack of lorry drivers! What a funny old world we're in now.

Daisy hev started up Craft and Chat agin – every other Monday up the Village Hall bar. Had two meetings so far and it was gud ter see what people hed bin making since the larst meeting in March 2020!

Daisy and Sid went ter Cromer ter the Pier show and that was very gud. Bit nervous about being in with a lot of people but wore masks and managed to sit with no-one either side. It was brilliant.

By now, yew shud awl know that the shop won the Independent Retailer of the Year. We are so lucky ter hev the shop, Post Office, yummy Cartshed and luvly staff.

Happy birthday ter Gert's dorter Mel in November. We think thas the only wun we hev in November – hope we hint missed enywun!

Hopefully, Gert will be able to organise a Coronation Club get-together in December. Seems ages since the larst wun.

Don't forget ter let us know if there's anything we ken help yew with. We know we say that every month but we do really mean it. *Tek care and stay safe. Gert and Daisy.*



LOST.. The video of our village made for the Twinning Association, which included some aerial views of Massingham, copies of which were sent to our twinning partner, St Clement, in France. If you find a copy, please lend it to me so I can make a DVD copy for the Historical Society's archive. Many thanks. *Andrew Bickerton.*

CRAFT & CHAT
November dates
1st 15th and 29th
2pm
Village Hall Bar

Shop window

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“It’s our absolute delight and privilege to announce.....”

Massingham Stores and Post Office Wins National Award!

Owners Kerry and Mark and four of their staff, attended the ‘Independent Retailer of the Year 2021’ awards, held at the Brewery hotel, London on 21st September.

All of us in the village knew they stood a really good chance.

Apparently, on the day of the awards, it was 1104 days since both Mark and Kerry made the brave decision to take on the traditional village store in Great Massingham. So much has happened since. We all know the long list of changes that have been made and with such speed, precision and commitment. Mark best summed it up by saying, “With the unswerving support of my team we have managed to achieve things in our little shop that we didn’t think possible. Our team is amazing and they make the shop what it is today. We started as a team of 6 and today we are 18!”

They couldn’t have done it without you Mark! Some of the changes made include refitting the entire shop, rebranding, decorating, extending opening hours, installing the latest scanning & payment systems, new flooring, new ranges, new shelving and, of course, the mobile Post Office serving 16 local villages. Not to forget that most of this happened during a pandemic which was also managed just as well as everything else. Your daily support for the Church’s food bank is also much appreciated. What an achievement and all in ‘the beautiful setting of Great Massingham’.



Our village store is NOW the ‘UK’s Independent Retailer of the Year 2021!’ and this couldn’t be more deserved. In Mark’s own message of thanks he says.....

“It’s a privilege to work with the best team serving our village community which, in turn, made it all possible by supporting us so much and giving us feedback.” He also paid tribute to the ‘extensive array of suppliers’ whose dedication and reliability has played a major part in providing the offer in store today. What a result!

Well done all of you! We cannot thank you enough for all you have done.

Great Massingham and Harpley C of E Primary Schools Federation

All the children, at both our Federation schools, have been delighted to return to school after the summer break. Between the two schools 24 new Reception children joined and they have already shown they are really keen to learn.

Our Federation Vision Statement is from Psalm 32:8

'I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.'

At Great Massingham, our 'value leaders' have been making plans to spread our vision statement throughout the village by placing pebbles in secret locations. Each pebble has a part of the statement painted on it. (see picture right)



The children have now hidden the pebbles for you to find, across Great Massingham. If you find one, please return it to the school or, alternatively, let us know and we will collect it and bring them all back together. Good luck & happy hunting!

Many activities have been taking place at the schools since our return, including all the KS2 children, from both schools, visiting the West Stow Anglo Saxon Village & museum. Each school also led a Harvest service at their village churches and donations of food were given to the King's Lynn Food Bank.

Harpley School had an OFSTED 'Inspection visit of a GOOD School' on July 15th. The report is very complimentary and states the school continues to be GOOD. One sentence 'This is a small school with a big heart' sums up perfectly how it is. Well done Harpley!

Biodiversity Project News



During October volunteers cut the meadow using Andrew Bickerton's Allen scythe. It was good fun to use but proved to be quite a strong-willed machine! This task was carried out later than usual as the meadow had a more varied range of plants this year, with a higher grass content and remained green up until it was cut.

A few days later, volunteers raked the cuttings off in order to remove as much nutrient as possible from the over-rich soil of the site. This act of raking and scarifying also helps to bring as much fallen seed as possible into contact with the soil which stimulates germination. Several plants of hemp agrimony (see picture below right) were recently added to the site. This native plant is a great attractor of butterflies and other pollinating insects with its showy soft pink flowers in late summer, a great addition to the site's biodiversity for future years.



The next Saturday morning work party will be on 20th November at 10am. We are always pleased to see new volunteers: if you would like to join us, please contact me on 520813 for further details. Tim Baldwin



SAMARITAN'S PURSE - OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 1st - 12th NOVEMBER, 2021, PLEASE PACK A SHOEBOX

Plans are being made to collect 'Operation Christmas Child' shoe boxes during the 1st & 12th of November.

There is also an option this year to pack a shoe box online via the Samaritan's Purse website: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

There is suggested donation of £5 per box to cover volunteers' training, transport etc.

Shoeboxes will be needed more than ever this year due to the pandemic and other conflicts worldwide 'to bring some joy to Children at Christmas'.

Please support this worthy cause and start filling your shoe boxes now.

Suggestions are in the leaflets or online. Leaflets can be collected from Massingham Stores & Post Office or St Mary's Church.

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE USED OR DAMAGED ITEMS, WAR RELATED TOYS OR GAMES, SWEETS, FOOD ITEMS, TOOTHPASTE, LOTIONS, MEDICINES OR RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL ITEMS.

Pre-printed shoeboxes will be available to pack until 8th November

PLEASE CONTACT - YVONNE on 521706 or yvonne.linm@yahoo.co.uk

DROP OFF POINT: ST MARY'S CHURCH, GREAT MASSINGHAM

Great Massingham Parish Council October Meeting

The October Parish Council meeting was held in the Village Hall on Monday 11th with all Parish Councillors in attendance along with Borough Councillor J Moriarty and four members of the public.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Are you interested in joining the Parish Council? Becoming a parish councillor is a rewarding and valued form of public service. Councillors contribute to the council by:

- *Having a say about the things they care about*
- *Putting forward ideas for better services*
- *Responding to the needs and views of parishioners*
- *Seeking the best outcome to local issues*
- *Getting involved in decision making*
- *Helping to make Great Massingham a better place to live!*

Co-option will take place at the 8th November meeting. Application forms should be returned by 5th November. For further information or to obtain an application form please visit the Parish Council website or contact Sarah Harvey (Clerk) by email gmparishclerk@gmail.com or telephone 01328 823391.

Borough Councillor Community Grant Scheme

Each Borough Councillor has been given a grant budget of £1,000 to award for projects/initiatives/events that will offer community benefits in their own ward area.

Applications are invited from local constituted groups or organisations whose primary purpose is to benefit the residents of their community are invited to apply.

For further information on the process or for more information, please contact

Borough Councillor Jim Moriarty by email - cllr.James.Moriarty@west-norfolk.gov.uk

Reporting on Highways/Footway/Public Right of Way Defects

In order to carry out their obligations to keep public highways in good order, Norfolk County Council have a page on their website: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>. Why not visit it and see? It allows you to report issues.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held at the Village Hall on the
8th November, 2021, at 7.30pm.**

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Message to Parishioners from Rev'd Judith



The Church is uniquely placed to hold the collective memory of our local communities; the stories of lives well lived in our villages with baptisms, deaths and marriages all recorded for posterity.

Our war memorials are both repositories of history and places of pilgrimage, a spiritual archive of human sacrifice - for the greater good. We believe that, by remembering and honouring the fallen of past conflicts, we can build a better future.

All our families will be touched in some way by our Acts of Remembrance on November 14th - Remembrance Sunday - when the nation remembers its debt of gratitude. We share a deeply personal connection as our family stories interweave in history.

Recent events have shown us that sacrifice is not confined to the past. The terrorist murder of serving MP Sir David Amess, just five years after MP Jo Cox lost her life, shows us that we can **never** be complacent about the safety of our public servants as they go about their daily business. We hear that they are increasingly in the front line for hate-filled online trolls and physically vulnerable when they meet with their constituents. Sir David, who dedicated his life to improving the lives of the people of Southend-on-Sea, was described by the Prime Minister as: 'one of the kindest, nicest, most gentle people in politics.' A deeply respected MP for almost forty years, he was knighted in 2015. Sir David had energetically championed the disadvantaged - not only people but also animals, particularly those abused in factory farming. His life has become a sacrifice for democracy and for a fairer, more caring society.

So this month, as we remember those who have lost their lives defending the freedoms we hold so dear, let us pray for all those currently on active service in the world's most troubled regions, for those who act as peacekeepers, work for aid agencies, doctors and nurses bringing healing and hope, the brave journalists and photographers who keep us informed and the chaplains to the armed forces.

Building God's kingdom here on earth is **very difficult**. Saint Paul tells us, by way of the Christians of Thessalonica, "Do not be weary of doing what is right." We must take this, in 2021, as a personal challenge, while knowing that it is so hard to accomplish.

With my love in Christ, Reverend Judith

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the Kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life:

look with compassion on the anguish of the world and, by your healing power, make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

IMPORTANT NOVEMBER DATES

St Mary's Church Nativity

We would like to hold a nativity in the Church near Christmas and need your help. Please see page 16 for details.

St Mary's Coffee Morning - 6th Nov.

See details on front page.

Samaritan's Purse Latest Details - p 10

Coffee Morning & Christian Aid Recipe Book Launch,

'Taste and See', Saturday 20th November, 10 am - noon, Gaywood Church Rooms.

RETINA UK Thanks

I would like to thank the many people of Great Massingham who supported our son, William, in running the London Marathon in aid of Retina UK. I very am pleased to announce that your generous donations helped him reach his target.

To further update everyone, The Dabbling Duck have very kindly agreed to adopt Retina UK as its charity to support at its forthcoming Christmas events such as the Christmas Market and Carol Singing.

Many thanks everyone. Robert Taylor.

Church Services		November	
Date	Time	Service	Location
Wed. 3 rd November	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
Sunday 7 th November	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Family Service (Lay-led) Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong	Roydon Harpley Little Massingham Gayton Congham
Thurs. 11 th November	10.45 am	Remembrance Service	Ashwicken
Sunday 14 th November	8.30 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.45 am 10.45 am 10.45 am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer (Lay-led) Remembrance Service Remembrance Service Remembrance Service Remembrance Service	Congham Little Massingham Great Massingham Grimston Gayton Harpley
Wed. 17 th November	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Grimston
Sunday 21 st November	9.00 am 9.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Holy Communion Morning Praise (Lay-led)	Harpley Great Massingham Grimston
Sunday 28 th November Advent Sunday	8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm	Holy Communion Family Service (Lay-led) Holy Communion Holy Communion Celtic Service	Ashwicken Great Massingham Little Massingham Gayton Gayton Thorpe
<i>Wed. 1st December</i>	<i>9.00 am</i>	<i>Holy Communion</i>	<i>Harpley</i>
<i>Sunday 5th December</i>	<i>8.30 am 9.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am 3.00 pm</i>	<i>Holy Communion Family Service (Lay-led) Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong</i>	<i>Roydon Harpley Little Massingham Gayton Congham</i>
For up to date information please check our benefice website at www.ggmbenefice.uk			

CHURCH NEWS

Remembrance Services - 14th November

Great Massingham - Remembrance service at 10am followed by the act of remembrance at the memorial outside.

Little Massingham - Remembrance service, 10am followed by the act of remembrance at 10.50am, at the memorial within the Church.

St Mary's Harvest Celebration Craft Fair

This was a wonderful success. All our stall holders commented on the happy, friendly atmosphere. They are keen to come again.

Many thanks to all who helped, especially Mrs Brun for loaning the gazebo, June for all her hard work with the lovely lunches & cakes, Janice, Margaret and Chrissie for their support and together with everyone who helped with selling raffle tickets & serving refreshments. Special thanks to Dennys for the photographic display enjoyed and appreciated by so many.

Over the weekend an amazing £1,003 was raised for St Mary's. Thank you everyone.

Stephen Hudson and Anna Burpitt

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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	To be advised	
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 and Ken Perry	Sue Nash 07802 670 711
Guide Trefoil Guild	Shirley Rae	520 259
Massingham Historical Society	Peter James	521 706
Tennis and Multi-Sports Club	Clare Parker	520 469
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
Village Hall	Hall & Bar & Debs Lambert	520 588
Village Stores and Deli	Mark and Kerry Eldridge	520 272



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St Mary's Church Nativity

We would like to hold a village nativity in Church near Christmas (date yet to be confirmed). All children are welcome to come & join in. Julian is busy adapting a nativity script for us to follow and it promises to be great fun.

If your children would like to participate or if you can help with scenery/costumes please ring me, Anna, on 077896040971.

There will be a part for all who wish to participate.

We haven't done this before but it would be lovely to involve the whole community & make this Christmas special for us all.



Santa is coming to Great Massingham again this year!

'Santa Dash' is on Friday 10th December. Santa will arrive on his sleigh at about 4.30pm and will park on the green opposite the Church for a little while before moving on to Harpley. Santa and his helpers will be raising funds for:-

Greyfriars Academy, King's Lynn
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital
The Foodbank
Cancer Charities



He is also donating raffle prizes to Great Massingham Primary School so that funds can be raised.

Come and see Santa and his helpers.

Fish in GOOD Condition at Pit

Tom Perks, pictured, has been fishing Scotsman's Pit for several weeks.

He was in the Merchant Navy Service and has been round the World several times. He has many stories to tell you, so please stop and have a chat. This 7lb 6oz Carp is the biggest fish I have ever seen from our Scotsman's Pit. All the fish he has caught recently show them to be in wonderful condition.

With FOSPGM's work on Scotsman's Pit, it can only get better! *Ant Robinson*



Great news!

THE DABBLING DUCK CHRISTMAS MARKET IS BACK THIS YEAR!

Saturday December 4th ...10am until 4pm

MORE STALLS THAN EVER (Food and Craft)
STREET FOOD / MULLED WINE / PIZZA
LIVE MUSIC FROM VEX and PATRICK PHELPS
OVERFLOW CAR PARK AVAILABLE
SANTA in his GROTTO (From 2 until 4)



11 Abbey Rd, Great Massingham, PE32 2HN
email: info@thedabblingduck.co.uk

November Dates at a Glance

Date	Event	Time	Place
6 Nov	Church Coffee Morning	10am to 12noon	St Mary's Church
8 Nov	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
9 Nov	Community Lunch	12.30pm for 1pm	Village Hall Bar
11 Nov	Trefoil Guild	7pm	Village Hall
13 Nov	Book Launch	2pm to 4pm	Village Hall
15 Nov	Historical Society	7.30pm	Village Hall
18 Nov	Film Night	7pm for 7.30pm	Village Hall
19 Nov	Pop Up Restaurant	7pm for 7.30pm	Village Hall
20 Nov	Biodiversity Working Party	10am	Weasenham Road Site
22 Nov	Prize Bingo for 'The Big C'	7pm for 7.30pm	Village Hall