

The Mallard

Issue 394

November 2024



LOCAL FUNDRAISER RAISES £2,252 FOR MACMILLAN AT FUN-FILLED EVENT

Since 2005, Christine Warnes and her team of volunteers raised the incredible amount of £102,300 + for Macmillan, so when I heard Christine wanted to step down from organising it, I was only too happy to help. We held the coffee afternoon on Saturday, 21st September. We had various activities such as cupcake decorating, face painting, raffle, book stall, miniature donkey walks/cuddles, and a tombola (where Christine and Peggy sourced over 200 prizes!!). Many people baked and donated a delicious selection of sweet and savoury bakes, and the day was enjoyed by all. We raised an amazing £2252.34! Thank you to everyone for helping me on the day!

Victoria Wade



70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SURPRISE

Mr and Mrs Geoff Freezer from Swaffham had a lovely surprise when they walked into St Mary's Church on 18th September. They were married in Great Massingham 70 years ago that day and wanted to visit the church as part of their Platinum Wedding celebrations. They were expecting a cup of tea and a piece of cake, but to their surprise the table had been decorated with balloons and an anniversary card from all at the church. Shirley Freezer (nee Skipper) was brought up in Massingham and still has a brother (Mervyn) in the village. They frequently visit her family graves at St Mary's, as well as refreshments at the Cart Shed. Geoff and Shirley would like to say a huge thank you to all who helped make their day so special, and also to Judy Goodings who made them a delicious anniversary cake.



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 November
2024**

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GREAT MASSINGHAM C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL 100 CLUB WINNERS

May 24

1st - Anth Robinson
2nd - Elaine Wingell
3rd - Cyril Gillett

July 24

1st - Bay Doherty
2nd - Steph Adams
3rd - Ann Bowen

June 24

1st - Alfie Darlow
2nd - Suzie Overson
3rd - Betty Gillett

September 24

1st - Ann Bowen
2nd - Sophie Lodge
3rd - Sarah Gibbs

FREE TASTER CHAIR FIT CLASS

Monday 4th November Harpley Village Hall 10.30am
if enough interest class will run every Monday
Contact Jules Attack-Austin 07721 774198

HARPLEY VILLAGE HALL QUIZ

Friday 8th November 2024 7pm for 7.30pm start
£2.50 per adult, teams of up to six for tickets
email harpleylive@gmail.com

COFFEE MORNING HARPLEY VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 9th November 10am -12 Middyay

With HISTORY OF HARPLEY SOLDIERS & ARMISTICE COMMEMORATION

Followed by a display at St Lawrence Church
on Sunday 10th November

HARPLEY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday 23rd November from 10.00am in Village Hall
Christmas Fayre in aid of the Miniature Donkeys
Cakes, Raffle, Tombola, Jumble and nearly new, books etc.
Lots of bargains.

Donkeys will be there in their Christmas Outfits.

COMMUNITY CAR BINGO

Monday 4th November

Doors open 7 pm

Eyes down for 7.30pm

**At Great Massingham
Village Hall.**

CRAFT & CHAT DATES

From 2pm to 4pm,
Village Hall Bar

**Monday 11th & 25th
November**

Everyone welcome.

Great Massingham FIRE SERVICE MUSIC QUIZ

Friday 8th November

7.30pm in the Village Hall
*Please Come and Give Your
Support*

DANCE & HOG ROAST On Friday 29th November

LIVE MUSIC by DNA
Vegetarian option available.
Doors open 7.00pm,
Food to be served at 7.30pm
£20.00 a ticket

FILM NIGHTS

7 for 7.30pm
at the Village Hall

MEMBERS NIGHT combined with PTA

Thursday 7th November

'The Teacher's Lounge'

Meal provided before film commences

Thursday 21st November

'The Holdovers'

£5 (plus a complementary drink)

**MISSING EARWIG
KNOWN AS ERIC**



To find Eric come to the Village Hall
Saturday 9th November 2pm to 5pm.

Rewards offered!

Free refreshments plus more children's
books by Andrew Bickerton at reduced
prices.

**MASSINGHAM
HISTORICAL SOC.**

**A POWERPOINT
Presentation**



NOV. 15th VILLAGE HALL 7.30pm

**PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY
PANTO & OLD TIME
MEMORIES**

Members free, Guests £3 Bar open

It's Time to...

RUMBLE IN THE JUMBLE

Great Massingham Village Hall

Sunday 10th November 12-2 pm

All sizes available

Come and grab a bargain

Interesting bric-à-brac, Tombola

Bar is open

All profits to help fund the Village Hall

Community Lunch

Tuesday 12th November, Village Hall Bar

Arrive 12.30pm, eat at 1pm

Spicy pork casserole creamed potato
and seasonal vegetables followed by

Eves pudding.

Menu £8.00

Come & meet friends for a chat.

The Bar will be open.

To book lunch please contact Deborah

Lambert on 07493 406 501 or, email on

mrsdl1965@gmail.com

QUIZ NIGHT

AT GREAT MASSINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Thursday 28th November 2024 to be held in the bar of the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Entry is £2.00 per person or £4.00 for non-members.

Either come along as a team, maximum of six, or join a team on the night.

During this current season we will only be holding one quiz per month. There will be
three at the Dabbling Duck: October, March and June; six at the Village Hall on fourth

Thursday of the month: September, November, February, April and May.

**Please do not hesitate to email me, robertcharlestaylor@live.com, or call me on
07908 244421 for further information.**

SPLENDID RESULT FROM HARPLEY COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Morning and Art Sale on 12th October went really well and was well attended.

A fantastic sum of £451 will be donated to the King's Lynn Night Shelter. This was achieved by the sale of art works and household items (£227) and generous donations (£139). Refreshments profit was split with Harpley Village Hall, so each benefitted by £85.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event in their different ways.



LE CERCLE FRANCAIS



We are up and running. On Tuesday 8 October we held our first meeting with 8 people attending. The group formed an immediate ambience and we quickly found a way of involving everybody regardless of their fluency.

The Dabbling Duck generously put the Orangery at our disposal so we had a quiet environment to ourselves.

We all agreed that we should meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month so the next 2 meetings will be on 26 November and 10 December. All are welcome to join us for an hour or so of gentle French conversation.

For further information please contact malcolmtibble@hotmail.co.uk

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website: www.thecartshedtearoom.co.uk

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Tel: 07714 192 521

GREAT MASSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council convened at 7:30 pm on Monday, 21st October, with seven councillors and eight members of the public present.

New Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM2): The Parish Council has agreed to secure a second SAM2 Sign for the village which will be delivered through funding obtained from the Parish Partnership Scheme, where both the County Council and Parish Council contributes to half of the cost. The SAM2 sign displays the speed of approaching vehicles and also records traffic volume and speed data. Summaries of this data will be published on the Parish Council website to keep residents informed. For updates, visit www.greatmassingham-pc.info

Bridge Repairs in the Biodiversity Area: Upcoming repairs will strengthen the bridge structure in the Biodiversity Area, replacing walkway planks and addressing any additional maintenance required. Temporary access restrictions will be in place during this period, though the work will be completed as swiftly as possible.

Community Consultations: Parking and Play Area: Thank you to all residents who provided valuable feedback through recent consultations on village parking and the play area. Over the coming weeks, this input will help guide discussions on parking management in the village centre and inform plans for replacing the play area's roundabout. This feedback is vital as it supports funding applications and ensures that the improvements align with community needs.

Christmas Lights Switch-On: Planning is underway for our annual Christmas Lights 'Switch-On,' scheduled for 6th December 2024. Final details of the event will be confirmed at the November Council meeting, so stay tuned for more details!

Councillor Community Grant Scheme: Borough Councillor A. Beales has an annual grant of £1,000 available to support local community groups in his ward. Projects should benefit residents of West Norfolk and can include items such as equipment purchases, facility repairs, event contributions, or initiatives aimed at improving health, social mobility, and well-being. For more details or to apply, please visit the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk's website and search for the 'Councillor Community Grant Scheme.'

Next Meeting and Contact Information

Our next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, 11th November, at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to comment or ask questions during the public portion of the meeting.

****Please Note**:** The Parish Council does not respond to posts on social media. We kindly ask that any comments, questions, or feedback be directed to the Clerk using the contact information below.

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



MOBILE LIBRARY NEXT VISITS 22nd November & 20th December 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

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MASSINGHAM STORES & POST OFFICE FOOD - WINE - DELI



EXCITING NEWS! A newly improved and extended store coming soon!

We are bringing some exciting new changes to your store.

We are extending the hours of the Post Office so it will open
7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and 9am to 7pm Sunday

We are introducing more chilled food ranges to help with those all important meal ideas and solutions

Other key changes will include:

More chilled beer and wines ~ 75% more refrigerated and frozen food ranges
More selection of locally produced foods ~ Over 25% more groceries

We will also be introducing Massingham's own 'Garden Shop' which will be a place to buy bedding plants, house plants, compost, winter fuel and much more.

Also we will be introducing a ramp-way to make our shop accessible for all customers. We are installing a handrail across the front of the shop which will also be covered by a canopy.

We are installing a new covered and heated patio area for the Cartshed which will see an area for an additional 20 seats including a water refill station and ports for phone charging especially useful for our cycling customers.

So when is all this happening:

We will be starting the improvement works on **15th October** and we expect them to be complete by **end of November**

For some of those weeks we will be trading from a pop up shop to the front of the shop. The mobile post office will be on hand to provide all the post office services you normally enjoy on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturday mornings.

The van will be either located at the village hall or parked in and around the greens of the village in front of the church.

We hope to have the grand re-opening in **late November**.

We appreciate your patience during the refurbishment works and we will do everything we can to minimize disruption

THANKS FROM ALL THE TEAM AT MASSINGHAM STORES AND THE CARTSHED TEAROOM



WILDFLOWER MEADOW AT THE VILLAGE HALL

It was that time of year again when the Wildflower Meadow on the Jubilee Field at the Village Hall needed some maintenance. Dr. Mike Jackson turned up kindly to cut back this year's growth from the meadow using his Allen Scythe. Cutting back will allow new meadow plants to emerge next Spring to provide another colourful display. The cutback debris was raked off the site, to help promote future growth, by Vaughan Woodbridge, Peter James and Tim Baldwin – taking a pause from their usual Friday

morning job of restoring and protecting the banks of Scotsman's Pit from erosion and collapse.

The trees planted around the meadow three years ago, by our local school children, are coming along very nicely. The vast majority of the trees are thriving and will, in the near future, be able to look after themselves.

In a few more years the objective of producing an area of quiet for picnics or just enjoying nature will be realised.

Phil Ward



FUN FAIR VISIT 2024

A 'fun' time was had by all when Grays Fun Fair visited the village at the beginning of October.

They very kindly made a donation of £300 to the Parish Council, which will be used towards the upkeep of the greens.

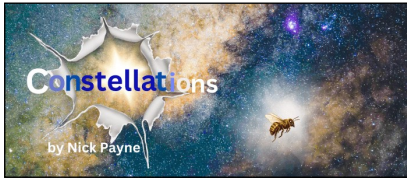
We look forward to them returning next October.

The photo opposite was kindly sent in by Rod Andrew of himself and friend Jean who is 92 enjoying the bumper cars on Friday night.

Combined age of 162 years. Proving that the fun zone is not just for the kids.



AUTUMN AT WESTACRE THEATRE NOVEMBER 2024



Westacre Theatre Company
CONSTELLATIONS By Nick Payne

7/8/9/14/15/16 November 7:30pm

9/16 November 3pm All tickets £18 (£10)

A play about free will and friendship. About quantum multiverse theory. Love. And honey. A quantum physicist and a beekeeper meet at a barbeque. They hit it off, or perhaps they don't. They go home together, or maybe they go their separate ways. Every possible future is ahead of them. Nick Payne's gloriously romantic West End hit & winner of 2022 Olivier Award for Best Play Revival.

Westacre Theatre Company
EDWIN An injudicious comedy
by John Mortimer

**22 November 7:30pm 23 November 3pm &
7:30pm All tickets £16 (£10)**

Featuring Andy Naylor as the Judge, Issy Huckle as Margaret his wife, Clive Hadfield as his friend Tom & Chris Child as the gardener.

Sir Fennimore Truscott is a retired High Court judge. He now spends his time sitting under the mulberry tree in his garden fixatedly 'trying' the case of his wife's suspected infidelity with an old friend and neighbour. His son Edwin who now lives in Canada is coming to lunch after many years abroad. But...is Edwin his son or not?

The audience are the jury and the verdict may surprise even them.



**CHARLES DICKENS'
A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

Saturday 29 November 7.30pm

All tickets £20 (£10)

Vincent Franklin (Happy Valley, The Thick Of It, Gentleman Jack) has adapted Dickens' own performance script to create a unique theatrical experience that will leave audiences

with their blood chilled and their hearts warmed.

PLUS - Green Mathews presents *A Brief History of Music* - 600 years of musical history in 90 minutes! **Sunday 17 November 2pm All tickets £19 (£10)**

PLUS - Wednesday Flicks: *Wicked Little Letters* - Starring Jessie Buckley, Olivia Coleman & Timothy Spall. **Wednesday 27 November 2pm All tickets £10**

Have a look at our website for all the latest info at www.westacretheatre.com or you can give the Box Office a call on 01760 755007

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP - Gt Massingham & Docking Surgeries

Did you know we have a Patient Participation Group (PPG) which meet alternately at the Massingham and Docking Surgeries.

Would you like to join and get involved? If you are interested and can contribute suggestions and share views this can be beneficial for patient care and services in the community.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 20th November at Gt Massingham Surgery at 7 pm. If you would like to know more information please contact the Practice Manager Gt Massingham & Docking Surgeries.

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Message for Parishioners from Joy Smith



Dear Parishioners,

Well, the clocks have now gone back, and we are experiencing darker nights, but sometimes we have lovely clear skies when you can see the stars shining brightly in the cool nights, what an amazing sight! We are lucky to live in Norfolk where there is not too much light pollution, and we can see lovely sunsets, sunrises, and night skies. You may have been lucky enough a few weeks ago to have seen the Northern lights as the night sky shone with pinks, purples, and greens, unfortunately, I missed seeing them but hopefully I may have another chance to see this amazing sight.

November is a special month for remembering who we are as a people and who we are as a church. On November 1st we celebrate All Saints a special day for two of our churches, Ashwicken and Roydon as they are both dedicated to All Saints. Then on 2nd November we remember All Souls, a day when we remember all those who have gone before us and give thanks for their lives. It is good sometimes to give ourselves time to think of those we have loved and are now in a better place, for when we pray, we place ourselves in God's presence and in the company of those we love even if those persons have gone before us in death.

And of course we cannot forget *Remember, remember the 5th of November* when our skies light up with fireworks.

Then on 11th November to join with the rest of our Nation in honouring all those who have died in the service of their country. We also commit ourselves to helping bring about peace in our World, which seems to be an impossible task as our TV screens are full of the destruction and the insanity of war. Sometimes we think it will never end. But in Revelations 21 verse four it says "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." What a lovely thought and something to hold on to during the winter months, that even in the darkest days the light still shines. Take time in all your business to stop and reflect this November.

Joy Smith, Licensed lay Minister

St Mary's Church, Gt Massingham
Christmas
Coffee Morning
Saturday 30th November
10am -12:30
Please join us to enjoy a
coffee, delicious cakes &
Christmas treats.
Children can write a letter to
Santa & then post it in our
Express Post Box!
Beautiful
handmade cards
Gifts
Crafts

A cartoon illustration of Santa Claus with a white beard, wearing a red suit and hat, holding a letter in his hands.

SCHOOLS SUPPORT FOODBANK WITH GENEROUS HARVEST DONATIONS

Many thanks to the children from both Great Massingham and Harpley Primary schools for their very generous donations of different produce and goods.

These were collected at their Harvest Festivals, our foodbank is extremely lucky to have the support from both schools. *Anna Burpitt*

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



On Sunday 10th November there will be a 10am service at St Mary's Great Massingham followed by 10.30am at Little Massingham.

Date	Time	Service	Location
Sunday 3rd November <i>4th Sunday before Advent</i>	8.30 am 9.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion	Roydon Harpley Grimston
Wednesday 6th November	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
Sunday 10th November <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	8.30 am 10.00 am 10.30 am 10.45 am 10.45 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Remembrance Service Remembrance Service Remembrance Service Remembrance Service Remembrance Service	Congham Gt Massingham Lt Massingham Grimston Gayton Harpley
Monday 11th November <i>Armistice Day</i>	10.45 am	Act of Remembrance	Ashwicken
Sunday 17th November <i>2nd Sunday before Advent</i>	9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Sung Eucharist Morning Praise Holy Communion	Harpley Grimston Gt Massingham
Wednesday 20th November	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Grimston
Sunday 24th November <i>Christ the King</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	East Walton Gayton Gt Massingham Lt Massingham Gayton Thorpe
For more news and alterations to services please visit our benefice website at www.ggmbenefice.uk			

CHURCH CLEANING



In September, it was the Coronation Club's turn to clean the church. While we worked hard, it was clear that there was significantly more evidence of bats and mice compared to our efforts in March.

I believe it would be very helpful to include a monthly cleaning rota in the Mallard, reminding everyone whose turn it is for the following month. Additionally, a list specifying the tasks to be completed. We did our best based on what was visibly needed, and I believe our efforts made a noticeable difference.

We had a total of seven members in attendance, along with one non-member, with a combined age of 617 years. Given the circumstances, I think we did an excellent job.

Well done to everyone who contributed!

Jill Whitmore

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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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GREAT MASSINGHAM BIODIVERSITY PROJECT 2010 - 2024

Gallery of Volunteers with Biographical Notes



BIODIVERSITY PROJECT NEWS

As we move into autumn, volunteers have cut and cleared the meadow at the Biodiversity Project and carried out similar work on the playing field meadow area. Mike Jackson has been busy compiling an attractive photobook showing volunteers at work since the Project's inception in 2010. This also serves to chronicle how the site has developed over the years and includes notes about some of the many volunteers who have helped shape it. Copies have been made available to volunteers and a copy lodged

with the Massingham Historical Society for their archives.

If anyone would like to see a copy or obtain further details, please contact myself or Mike Jackson.

Tim Baldwin

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME

Community Cars has some good news! We have been given a grant from the Norfolk Foundation of £3000! This will help keep us afloat for some considerable time!

On a slightly gloomy note we do need more drivers!! Although we get by... just... a few more drivers would really help. If you could spare a little time please get in touch with our office and get details andvolunteer!!

Neil Steed, Chairman



Great Massingham Area Community Car Scheme

**IF YOU DRIVE A CAR AND CAN
SPARE A LITTLE TIME.....**



**Please call us
01485 520823**

Some November 2024 'Dates at a Glance'

Date	Event	Time	Place
4 November	Community Car BINGO	7 for 7.30pm	Village Hall
7/21 November	Film Nights	7 for 7.30pm (See page 2)	Village Hall
8 November	Fire Service Music Quiz	7.30pm	Village Hall
10 November	Rumble in the Jumble	12.00 to 2.00pm	Village Hall
11 November	Parish Council Meeting	7.30pm	Village Hall
11/25 November	Craft & Chat	2.00pm to 4.00pm	Village Hall Bar
12 November	Community Lunch	12.30 for 1.00pm	Village Hall Bar
15 November	Historical Society	7.30pm	Village Hall
28 November	Quiz Night	7.30pm	Village Hall Bar
29 November	Dance & Hog Roast	7.00pm for 7.30pm	Village Hall
30 November	Coffee Morning	10am to 12.30pm	St Mary's Church