

# ASSLINGTON

## NEWS



MAY 2021

# CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (useful numbers)

If your club or organisation is not listed here and you would like to be included, then please let me know on 01787 210354 or email [bronwenstacey@btinternet.com](mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com)

Allotments Secretary	Claire Osborne	07920 800108
Assington Books, Village Hall (see post office for times)	Michelle Bourner	07954 221773
Assington Farmshop	Maxine Gardiner	01787 211610
Assington Post Office, Village Hall	Mon 1.30-3.30,	Wed 9-12
Assington Village Charity Secretary	Claire Osborne	07920 800108
Boxford CEVC Primary School ( <a href="mailto:office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk">office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk</a> )	Head: Mrs J Davies	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moira Grant	01787 211513
Church, Children's activities	Michelle Bourner	07954 221773
Church - Organist	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Church - Reader	Dr John Symons	01787 211534
Church - Secretary	Emily Cartlidge	07976724266
Church - Treasurer	Ian Clark	01787 211133
Churchwarden	Roger Britcher	01787 211021
Churchwarden	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Community Choir	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
County Councillor ( <a href="mailto:james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk">james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk</a> )	James Finch	01473 264993
District Councillor (Assington)	Lee Parker	01787 376073
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 310000
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Fleece Jazz, Stoke by Nayland Hotel - <a href="http://www.fleecejazz.org.uk">www.fleecejazz.org.uk</a>	Stoke by Nayland	01787 211865
Footpath Wardens	Paul & Cynthia Hollingsworth	01787 211620
Horticultural Society	Bryn Hurren	01787 210854
Leavenheath Cinema	Ken	01206 263266
Member of Parliament ( <a href="mailto:james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk">james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk</a> )	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Parish Council	Simon Thorogood	01787 227400
<a href="mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com">bronwenstacey@btinternet.com</a>	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
<a href="mailto:john@moorsfarm.com">john@moorsfarm.com</a>	John Symons	01787 211534
<a href="mailto:rosemarysymonds42@gmail.com">rosemarysymonds42@gmail.com</a>	Rose Symonds	01787 229100
<a href="mailto:hwallace58@gmail.com">hwallace58@gmail.com</a>	Helen Wallace	01787 211162
<a href="mailto:i.jordan741@btinternet.com">i.jordan741@btinternet.com</a>	Ian Jordan	01787 211609
<a href="mailto:andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com">andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com</a>	Andrew Hill	01787 827112
Parish Council - Clerk, ( <a href="mailto:assingtonpc@yahoo.com">assingtonpc@yahoo.com</a> )	Christine Hargan	01449 674727
Pub – The Shoulder of Mutton		01787 210334
Vicar ( <a href="mailto:steve.morley@btinternet.com">steve.morley@btinternet.com</a> )	Steve Morley	01787 227407
Village Hall – Bookings ( <a href="mailto:louisa@moorsfarm.com">louisa@moorsfarm.com</a> )	Louisa Symons	01787 211534
Village Hall - Caretaker	Paul Battle	07473 933320
Womens Institute, Boxford ( <a href="mailto:annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk">annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk</a> )	Annie Phillips	01787 211729

The Assington News is a community magazine funded primarily through adverts and donations, for which we are always most grateful.  
**ADVERTS. RATES pa : £20 for 1/8 size page advert, £35 for 1/4 page advert, £60 for 1/2 page advert. Contact Bob Cowlin 01787 229955**  
**Bank Account details for payments and donations: Account no: 01345159. Sort Code: 30 - 98 - 31.**

**The ASSINGTON NEWS** NOW IN COLOUR ONLINE at <http://assington.onesuffolk.net/assington-news/>

Front Cover Photograph by: Ross Britcher

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Auditor	Ian Clark, 01787 211133

# MAY DIARY DATES AND THINGS TO DO

The  
**ASSINGTON VILLAGE CHARITY**  
manages the Village Hall,  
Playing Field and Playground on  
behalf of the residents of the village  
and surrounding area.

The Management Committee is  
**looking for new members** to replace  
at least two recent resignations.  
All residents of 18 years and upwards  
are welcome to attend and can vote

at  
the **Annual General Meeting**  
on  
**Wednesday 19th May at 6pm**  
in the **Village Hall**  
*unless further Covid-19 restrictions are  
required by law.*

*Social distancing measures will be in  
place, face-masks and hand-sanitiser will  
be available.*

The meeting will last no more than an hour.

**For further information** about the  
work of the Charity please contact  
Stephen King 01787 210932 or  
07870 632175. You can email me on  
[sjking@btinternet.com](mailto:sjking@btinternet.com)  
or you can contact any of the current  
committee members:

Paul Battle  
Nigel Finch  
Stephanie Gould  
Claire Osborne  
Sue Sadler-Brunning  
Louisa Symons  
Dr John Symons

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH LITTLE CORNARD

We are happy to announce our online

### PLANT SALE

We welcome back our loyal customers and new gardeners alike and  
thank you for your support.

Details of plants available can be found by requesting the plant list  
from [gabird@btinternet.com](mailto:gabird@btinternet.com) or telephone 01787 227259

We expect to have Rudeckia, Lupin, Esther Reed  
White Daisy, Sweet Peas, Delphiniums, Geraniums,  
Lobelia, Cosmos, Bacopa, Crocosmia, Lucifer,  
Gladioli, Foxgloves, Begonias, Box Hedging,  
Geum, Salvia, Thrift, Hellebores, Tomato Plants,  
Squash, Courgette, Leeks and lots more



Proceeds are to Little Cornard Church and a donation to  
the

bell restoration project at St Gregory's Church in  
Sudbury

## ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Have you considered becoming a Parish  
Councillor?

**Assington Parish Council has a vacancy for a  
Parish Councillor.**

Would you like to help make a difference to our village?  
Do you care about where you live, its facilities, activities,  
open spaces?

Whatever needs tackling or improving locally, becoming a  
Parish Councillor gives you the opportunity to change  
things, and you could help to make a difference to the  
quality of life for people in Assington.

If you are:

- ❖ **Aged 18 or over**
- ❖ **An elector of the parish**
- ❖ **An occupier as an owner or tenant of land  
or other premises in the parish during the  
whole of the last 12 months,**

**you are eligible for consideration.**

The Parish Council normally meets in the Assington  
Village Hall at 7.30pm on alternate months.

The best way to find out what it's like to be a Parish  
Councillor is to talk to someone who's doing it now.

Further information on our Parish Council can be  
found on the parish website:  
<http://assington.onesuffolk.net>

**Or speak to Councillor Helen Wallace**, who has  
agreed to give you the low-down.  
Tel: 01787 21162 or mobile 07949221685,  
email: [hwallace58@gmail.com](mailto:hwallace58@gmail.com)



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**Come and meet new friends, have fun, and help raise money for charity!**

Thursdays 6.30pm, either on Zoom or Covid-secure at Assington Village Hall (dependent on current restrictions)

No audition necessary

First session free

Membership includes free voice workshops, learning aids, online resources, and opportunities to perform for charity

For more info go to [www.happysounds.co.uk](http://www.happysounds.co.uk) or call 07957 394780

# IN REMEMBRANCE

## HRH THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

Great sadness has been expressed following the



announcement of the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh:

On behalf of the Councillors, staff, and the residents of Suffolk, the Chairman of Suffolk County Council has sent sincere condolences to Her Majesty The Queen and all her family at this time.

The loss of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh will be felt right across the globe for some time to come.

In the knowledge that the people of Suffolk would want to pay their own personal tributes to someone who has been a part of this great country's fabric for so many years, online books of condolences were opened on the County Council's website and on the Bury St Edmunds Cathedral website for the duration of official mourning, which ended on Sunday 18 April, the day after the funeral of His Royal Highness.

\*\*\*\*\*

## SELWYN PRYOR

Very sadly, Selwyn Pryor passed away on Sunday, 28 March 2021.

Many of you will know that he served us as a County Councillor for over thirty years here in the Stour Valley, and regularly attended Parish Council Meetings in Assington.

County Cllr Pryor opposed the closure of small village schools and put up a spirited opposition to the closures of the primary schools in Assington and Polstead in the early 1980s; he felt the closures had made a significant impact on village life, losing a key "focal point".

The funeral service was held on 16 April in Bures St Mary Church for family only, sadly (Due to COVID restrictions) but was live streamed.

\*\*\*\*\*

## PEGGY MINNS 1926-2021 formerly of Assington

Peggy Eileen Minns was born on the 26 October 1926. One of four siblings, she lived in Assington during her childhood and worked in domestic service during the Second World War, doing her bit for the war effort working both inside and 'digging

for victory' outside on the land. She was eighteen when the war ended.

Peggy was introduced to her husband in the Hare and Hounds in Leavenheath. They were married in Assington Church on the 14 May 1949 and had their wedding reception at the Shoulder of Mutton. They lived at 22 The Street, Assington before moving to Prospect Hill in 1959.



## ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bill Milner and Bob Cowlin

2016 TOTAL 599.5  
2017 TOTAL 571  
2018 TOTAL 559  
2019 TOTAL 597  
2020 TOTAL 636

\*\*\*\*\*

2018	mm	max	min
JAN	60.5	11°C	-3°C
FEB	41	9°C	-8°C
MAR	74	14°C	-5°C
APR	49.5	26.5°C	+1°C
MAY	38.5	27°C	+0.5°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2019	mm	max	min
JAN	23.5	9°C	-8°C
FEB	19.5	16°C	-5°C
MAR	44	19°C	-3°C
APR	18.5	24°C	-3°C
MAY	54	26°C	+1°C
JUNE	94.5	29°C	5°C
JULY	36.5	34.5°C	6.5°C
AUG	31.5	31°C	7°C
SEP	37.5	24°C	2°C
OCT	90	18 °C	-2°C
NOV	69.5	12 °C	-5°C
DEC	78	10 °C	-5°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2020	mm	max	min
JAN	33.5	10 C	-5°C
FEB	56	11°C	-3°C
MAR	21	14°C	-5°C
APR	22	23°C	-1°C
MAY	5.5	27°C	-2.5°C
JUNE	50	28°C	+2°C
JULY	58	30°C	6°C
AUG	109	32°C	4°C
SEP	25.5	27°C	5°C
OCT	110	14°C	2°C
NOV	33	14°C	-4°C
DEC	102.5	10°C	-5°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2021	mm	max	min
JAN	89	10°C	-5.5°C
FEB	34	14°C	-7°C
MAR	26	20°C	-3°C

# NURSERY OPENING EASTER 2021

FOR CHILDREN FROM 1-4

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**For References see Website  
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 [@nailsbygrace123](https://www.instagram.com/nailsbygrace123)

# NATURE WATCH



## Its back for 2021: The Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Forum 17 June.

The Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Forum 2021, *reflections on the past and opportunities for the future*, will take place via Zoom on Thursday 17 June from 9:20am to midday.

Topics covered will include nature recovery, archaeology, young people on conservation and the environment and a series of optional topic based presentations.

The programme includes plenty of breaks, opportunities to ask questions and engage in discussion.

All the details you need (including link to booking process) at: <https://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/2021/03/25/dedham-vale-aonb-and-stour-valley-forum-2021/>



The striking blue of the Ceanothus acts as a foil to the yellow and brown (or is it maroon?) bearded iris, and the smaller butterfly-pretty blue iris sibirica.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Bob Cowlin reports:



1st April - no sooner had the Fieldfares left, than three Swallows were settling in at Assington - last year the date was 5th April.  
A beautiful Spring sight!

\*\*\*\*\*

## MAY BLOSSOMS IN THE GARDEN

By BS

In May, *everything* suddenly explodes into bloom! Pink crab-apple blossom takes over from the white greengage, damson and plum blossom, and the early-flowering cherry trees.



Pale pink Deutzia cascades down to the fresh green daisy-speckled grass.



Aquilegia in a multitude of pinks, mauves, deep purple, pale blue, and a variety of shapes and forms unfurl and spring up in the borders.



The beautiful earliest (and usually also longest and last-flowering) rose "Gloire de Dijon" bursts into flower.

Remember you can see The Assington News in glorious technicolour. Go to [assington.onesuffolk.net/](http://assington.onesuffolk.net/) then select the far RH side of the top strap line, which says Assington News

..... And the alliums make a showy display of colour and height in places where other plants won't.....



# A SHORT HISTORY OF THE DUPONTS

**With thanks to David Dupont, the author.**

It all started in 1685 in France. French Protestants had been under increasing persecution over the past 50 years and this had come to a head with the Revocation of the Treaty of Nantes in 1685, which had previously afforded 'Les Huguenots' a modicum of protection. With the Revocation, Huguenots were banned from public worship, and their children were forced into the Catholic faith. Huguenot priests were either exiled or executed. Many tens of thousands of Huguenots fled France and dispersed to more tolerant countries, including The Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, Great Britain and America.

Philip Dupont, being a Huguenot priest in fear of his life, fled to England in 1685 along with thousands of his compatriots.

He was originally called "Philippe Lousmeau sieur DuPont", but seemed to have dropped the "Lousmeau" part of his name (perhaps to protect his Huguenot family, which remained in France).

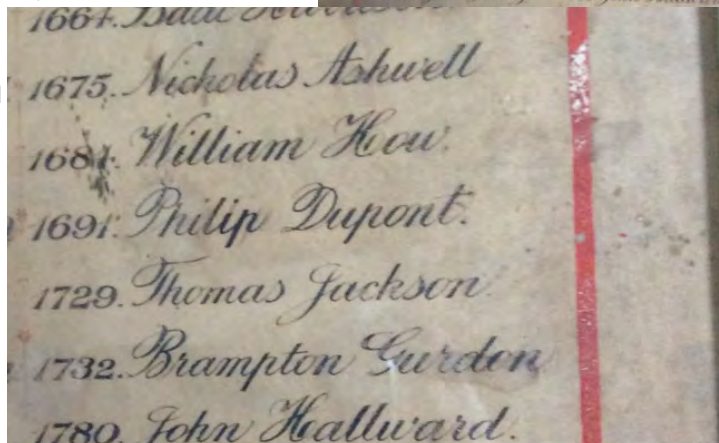
He had a brother who was also a priest, called Francois Lousmeau DuPont, who worked in Edinburgh for the small Huguenot refugee community there,

After arriving in England, Philip was ordained into the Anglican priesthood in 1686 and the following year was granted naturalisation.

In 1691 he was given the parish of Assington, in Suffolk, where he lived until his death in 1728.

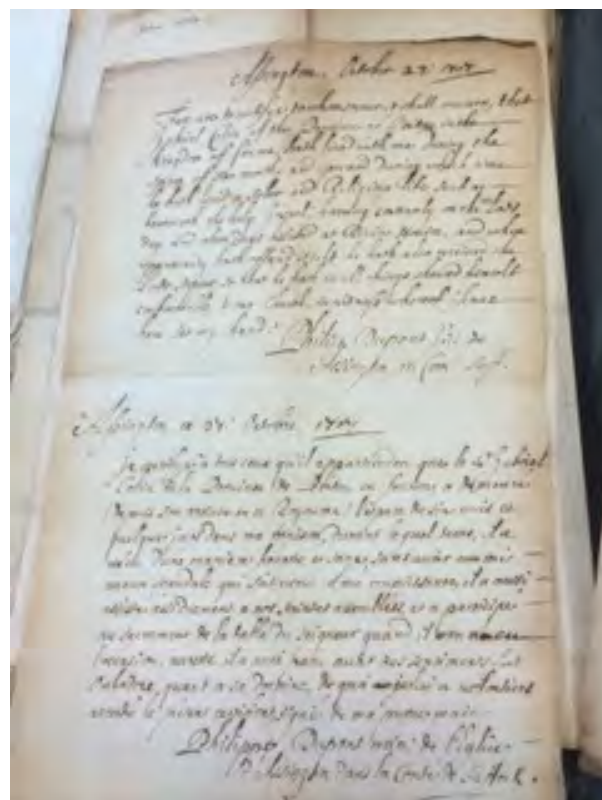


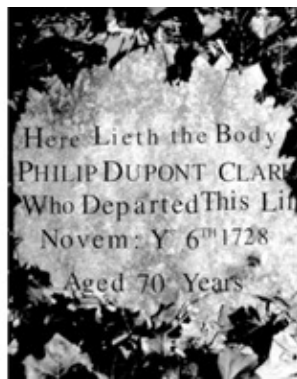
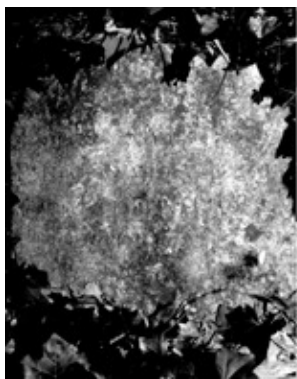
Please see at the head of the next column the framed "Vicars of Assington" register which hangs on the wall in the Church Vestry, and a close-up of the relevant date with Philip Dupont's name on the list of Vicars.



Philip became the "keeper" of an extensive library of books, which was bequeathed by Sir Thomas Alston to the Parish of Assington in his Will. The books were intended as the foundation of a Parish Library, which was to be kept in the vicarage for the use of the incumbent and his successors. (For more details on this see the separate article on Sir Thomas Alston).

We have a letter written in Philip Dupont's hand in both French and English, giving an attestation for a fellow Frenchman, from his native Poitou province, who was staying with him at Assington in 1707.





The gravestone of Philip Dupont in Assington churchyard is overgrown with ivy by a wall. The old black and white photograph of the gravestone, shows the text:

*“Here Lieth the body  
PHILIP DUPONT CLARK  
Who departed this Life  
Novem: Y 6<sup>TH</sup> 1728  
Aged 70 Years”*

The word **Clark** is the old word for priest.

One of Philip Dupont's grandsons, also Philip Dupont, a house carpenter, married Sarah Gainsborough - the sister of the famous painter Thomas Gainsborough - and their son Gainsborough Dupont was apprenticed to his uncle, and became an artist in his own right.

***Philip and Sarah Dupont and their son Gainsborough***



He followed his uncle to Bath, where they painted many society portraits and later, after Thomas Gainsborough's death, lived in fashionable Grafton Street, in London. He never managed to attain the recognition he may have wanted, always living in the shadow of his uncle's genius, and was rejected by the Royal Society many times. He became director of the French Protestant Hospital. When he died in 1797 he was buried at Kew with Thomas Gainsborough.



Another grandson, John Dupont was apprenticed as a barber. He settled in Bures St Mary. He married a local girl, Susan Causton and bought a shop from his father-in-law, John Causton, in 1754 for 28 pounds. As time went on, the generations split into two parts. One part moved to the growing Suffolk town of Sudbury, and established themselves as important citizens therein. They were yeomen, who owned property, farms and taverns and were prospering. The other part had remained in Bures, on the borders of Essex, and were maintaining the family shop, first as a barber shop, then a bakery and finally as a provisions shop. They too were prospering as in their wills they were able to leave money to the poor in the district.

In Sudbury, however the family line was about to die out, due to a lack of male heirs, and Richard Gainsborough Dupont, became the last of the Gainsborough/Dupont line. His daughter Louise married Dr. Richard Waring and her blood line carried on through their children.

In Bures however, the family prospered further, and it is from this line that the rest of the Dupont descendants emerged. Soon, however, with the coming of the railways in the 1820s, the family would begin to migrate southwards, first to Essex and finally to the East End of London which is probably where their ancestor (the Reverend Philip) originally arrived from France.

In 1887 a young merchant, Alfred Dupont, came to London and, having undergone an apprenticeship in drapery, set up a draper's shop in Islington. He based the shop on credit purchase, so that the less well-off inhabitants could also afford to buy his goods at reasonable prices. The business took off and by the 1950s more than 70 branches and department stores thrived throughout England, and 'Dupont Brothers' was one of the largest privately owned retail businesses in England, until it was bought out in the 1980s.



***Alfred Dupont  
founder of Dupont Bros***

While most of the family went into the 'family business', one son of Alfred, Clifford Dupont, emigrated to Southern Rhodesia, as it was called, after the Second World War to become a farm owner. Later he got involved in politics, and eventually became part of the controversial Ian Smith government in the late 1960s, which declared unilateral independence from Great Britain. He was made first president of the new Republic of Rhodesia in 1970, a position which he held until 1976 (a giant step from his humble Huguenot origins



***Clifford Dupont,  
First President of Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe)***

Today, the Dupont generations have scattered around the world, especially Canada, South Africa and Australasia, and all over England. In fact there are very, very few Duponts still living in Suffolk itself, such has been their dispersal.

# SIR THOMAS ALSTON and the ASSINGTON PAROCHIAL LIBRARY

Thomas Alston was Born in Suffolk, in 1609, the son of Thomas Alston, (1572 - 1620) of Gedding Hall, Assington.

He was educated at St John's College, Cambridge, matriculating in 1625, aged 16. He furthered his education at Queens' College, Cambridge, gaining his BA in 1630 and his MA in 1633 and then took Holy Orders.

There is a record in 1627 of him described as "Gentleman" and his address as Gedding Hall, Assington Suffolk.

He gained admission to the Inner Temple in 1627 and was called to the bar as a barrister in 1639.

In 1638 Thomas inherited Odell Castle in Bedfordshire from his older brother William, ((1607 - 1637) who died childless. William had become **Keeper of the Briefs in the Court of Kings Bench**, (a notoriously profitable position), and in 1633, was able to purchase the Odell Castle estate in Bedfordshire.

In 1642 Thomas was knighted, becoming the First Baronet of Odell. His coat of arms is described as: ten stars, 4,3,2,1. Mullet . Helmet, Mantle and crest.



Although sadly no longer there, In the floor of the Nave of Assington Church , the following was requested to be set out, accompanied by his crest:

"Thomas Alston both universities Student and master of arts, of the Church Anglican priest to holy orders Francis White Bishop of Ely, according to The rites of the Church admitted mortality he died the month of December 1690 A.D. Born April sixth 1609 was buried 1690.

I was miserable generation from Adam  
I am happy in the regeneration by the Holy Spirit  
I will be happy in the resurrection of Christ  
Rise to the hope of eternal life through Christ  
Used in conjunction with the faith of Christ to everlasting."

However, Sir Thomas Alston desired to be buried in the Church of Odell, Bedfordshire, where there was built an Alston family monument.

Alston 'remembered' Assington in his Will:

**THE WILL OF THOMAS ALSTON OF ASSINGTON co. Suff. Cleric.**

**Dated 1st May 1690.**

*I give my messuage or farm called Clarbecks "als" Orrels in Newton and Assington co. Suffolk to Elizabeth Tracy 'als' Euans one of the daughters of Mr John Tracy deceased, for her life with remainder to Edward Alston Rector of Newton Church and Thomas Alston my godson, son of the said Edward Alston and his heirs.*

*I leave to the rectors of Newton an annuity of 40/- chargeable upon the above lands.*

***I give to the Vicar of Assington and his successors hoping that some worthy and charitable persons will make some additions thereto, certain books with my name at the beginning or stamped on both sides T.A. also the shelves in my study - the register of the books bequeathed which register is to be examined and compared with the books therein described on the vicarage changing hands***

*I desire to found and endow a scholarship in Queen's College, Cambridge, of which I was formerly a member - the endowment of L3 yearly to be paid out of the preceeds of my lands in Assington and Newton - any scholar of the name of Alston to be preferred for this gift, or a native of Suffolk. I desire that this scholarship be called Alston's Scholarship.*

***I leave to the poor of Assington 26/- annually to be distributed as follows- The Churchwardens to provide every Sunday 6 penny loaves of mistelan with the June bread put into them - to be given in the first place to poor widows.***

*I give to Cornelius Alston son of Robert Alston 20/-*

*I give to Anna Hurrel, one of the daughters of my Uncle William Alston 40/-*

*To Rebecca Smith one of the daughters of my Uncle William Alston 40/-*

*To the children of Frances Williamson a third daughter of my Uncle William Alston 40/-*

*To the children of Rachel Rinch a fourth daughter 40/-*

*To the children of Mary Finch a 5th daughter 40/-*

*I give to Hellen Duncomb and Rachel Goldsmith daughters of Samuel Alston 20/-each*

*To Edmund Alston of Rogers 40/- and my gold seal ring which was my grandfathers*

*To Edmund my godson, son of above 20/-*

*To Thomas Alston of Newton Hall my silver spoons marked T.A. and my pewter plates with my coat of arms on them*

*To Samuel and Edmund his brothers 20/- each and a mourning ring each*

*To John Curd son of my Aunt Curd 20/-*

*To the children of Amy Dale and Susan Meller Daughters of my Aunt Curd 20/- each*

*To my godchildren Henry Goldsmith, Robert Ponder, Hellen Duncomb, and Susan Cook 20/- each*

*To Edward Alston of Boxford and his wife 20/-each*

*To the children of John Tracy of Moulton Suffolk, ( whose wife was Ann Alston) to Paul 40/-, to Charles 20/-, to Dorothy 40/-, and my piece of gold which was my mother's 33/- to Mary 20/-*

*To Luke Eales, MD, Dr. in physick, sonne of Thomas Eales . . my tutor and worthy friend deceased I leave all my physick books and books of Chyrurdgery as also of planting and Gardening and likewise my tobacco box of silver engraven with the Manuscript Book to explain it, and 40/-*

*To Mary Eales his sister 40/-*

*To Edward Alston Rector of Newton all my books not before bequeathed*

***To my friend Philip Gardon (?Gurdon?) a guinea for a ring***

*To my kinsman Giles Duncomb a guinea for a ring*

*To the poor of Newton 20/-*

*To Ann Street widow my faithful servant an annuity of 20/- for 2 years*

*I appoint Elizabeth Tracy my executrix and leave to her the residue of my estate.*

*signed Thomas Alston*

*Witnesses: Barret Gudon (?Gurdon?), Will How, Philip Franck, Will. Firmin.*

*Proved 31 January 1690/1 by Eliz. Euans 'als' Tracy*

Under the terms of this will, Alston founded a parish library at Assington, to be kept in the vicarage for the use of the incumbent and his successors. Alston's books in the Assington parish library are typically inscribed with his name and have "TA" gilt-stamped on front and back covers, as specified in his will. The books intended to be thus given were listed by Alston in a handwritten catalogue. He anticipated later additions to the library, and stipulated that on his death the books should be signed by the then Vicar; he also left instructions for his heirs to inspect the library whenever the Vicar changed, to ensure that nothing was missing. The remainder of his books and manuscripts, not given to the parish, were bequeathed to Edward Alston, Rector of Newton, Suffolk (d.1722).

Alston's manuscript (handwritten) catalogue is now held in Suffolk Record Office FL/521/11/2; (Now The Hold). There is also a copy in Lambeth Palace Library, ms 3221 fo 13ff)

It is a most interesting document, listing some 280 volumes, the majority of which (191 volumes) have survived. The contents are largely theological, with a noticeable percentage of early English printed material. Those books which have disappeared include:

Daemonologie by **King James**, Edinburgh 1597;  
and three other works by **King James VI and I**;  
Henric. 8vs Angliae Rex (**ie King Henry VIII**) contra  
Epistolam Martini Lutheri, Lond. 1526;  
A Conference in ye Tower wth. Ed. Campion Lond. 1583;  
and a collection of Prynne's early pamphlets including his  
Unlawfulness of Love- Locks, 1628).

Alston's own books which have survived comprise about half the total number of volumes in the Assington Parochial Library. They are almost entirely theological, a few political. They include some twenty printed before 1600, some of them with interesting stamped bindings, details of which have been noted by Mr. Neil Ker in his typescript catalogue of the Library. The earliest books he lists are  
Lyndwood's Provinciale printed at Oxford in 1483(?);  
and  
Theologia 18Venn, Alum.Cant. who notes: Alstons of  
Polstead, Newton, Assington, Edward-stone, Great Cornard  
and East Bergholt;  
also  
18 Foster, Alum. Oxonienseas and Venn, Alum.Cant.  
Damasceni (fol. Paris 1507, bound with Richard of St. Victor  
De Trinitate, Paris 1510).

Several of Alston's books have a 'Thos. Bales' autograph. Thomas Eales (or Bales) was Alston's tutor and "worthy friend" (deceased).

Nearly all of the books contain scholarly marginalia in Alston's neat handwriting, often comparing them with other editions in the Bodleian and the library of Queens' College, Cambridge.

One note of gift is of particular Suffolk interest. The first edition of Anthony Sparrow's celebrated Rationale upon the Book of Common Prayer, Lond. 1657, has a note : 'Ex dono authoris 7bris (i.e. Septembris) xxiiij-57'. Sparrow, a native of Depden, Suffolk, became Archdeacon of Sudbury at the Restoration, and Bishop successively of Exeter, 1667 and Norwich, 1676.

The remainder of the Assington Library consists of books contributed (in fulfilment of Alston's expressed hopes) by 'worthy and Charitable persons in . . . succeeding generations', among them several later Vicars, and several members of the Gurdon family of Assington Hall. These books include 53 listed in the S.T.C. There is an Eikon Basiliké 8vo 1649 (2nd issue 'binding stamped with CR (ie **King Charles**) between a crown above and a skull below, all gile). There are approximately 385 volumes (Alston and non-Alston) all told.

The Assington Library was kept at the old Vicarage (**probably what is now The Glebe House - Ed**) until this was sold about 1945. The books were then transferred by the purchaser, Mr. Wood, to Assington Church, some being

stuffed into the Church Chest, the rest placed in a Victorian bookcase given by Mr. Wood. Following enquiries by the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches, they were eventually found in a deplorable condition, suffering from damp and worm. In 1959 they were removed for safe keeping to Oxford, where they were temporarily stored at the Bodleian. On condition that they were restored to Suffolk, the Leche Trustees made a grant (of £150) for their repair.

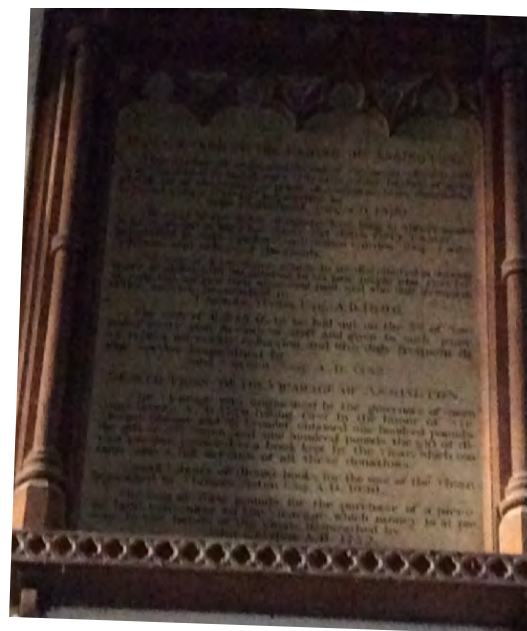
The **Assington library books** remained at the Bodleian until 1964, when through the kindness of the Provost, they were offered the hospitality of the newly-furnished Bury St. Edmunds Cathedral Library. Some 208 of them had at that stage been repaired and refurbished and were placed in the Cathedral library shelves, one hopes to be joined in due course by the rest of the collection. There they remained until 1984, when it is understood they were transferred to the Ipswich Record Office, and finally deposited in the Suffolk Record Office, and now..."The Hold".

In addition to the Parish Library, Alston bequeathed a charitable foundation for the church-attending poor of Assington, which left 26 shillings annually to be distributed as follows-

"The Churchwardens to provide every Sunday 6 penny loaves of mistelan with the June bread put into them - to be given in the first place to poor widows."

St Edmunds Church in Assington has a wall plaque, situated above the door into the vestry, which sets out the various charitable donations.

However, unfortunately, it is extremely difficult to be able to make out any of the words from floor level!



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## SESAW NEWS

There's an unusual sight – Kenny still tucked up in bed at lunchtime! Seems the little chap is under the weather leaving the computer clear for me to give you a cat's eye view of life at SESA W.

Like most animal charities, we've had few dogs in since Covid.. Those that have arrived are generally very needy, requiring special new homes.

Rolo, a Yorkie cross



and Nokie, a terrier cross



are not moving on anytime soon. The five year olds are great friends but trouble with humans. Both need special homes with someone prepared to give them time and space. An experienced owner will end up with a rewarding relationship with one, or maybe even two, of these dogs if they are the right person.

Some become permanent residents like Bobby, a terrier rescued from death row in a London dog pound. After failing to find his forever home he settled nicely with dear old Maisie, a springer spaniel who loved her life at SESA W despite health problems. Unfortunately we lost her last year but Bobby has a new long term pal. Bruno is a terrier chihuahua cross, people say he's a bigger version of Kenny which I can confirm. That pesky dog likes to sleep in the airing cupboard but he doesn't dare challenge me if I get there first!

Which reminds me, time to see if Little Lord Fauntleroy is up and about. Yes, as I approach the kitchen I can hear him yapping to greet me. Ollie (the Black) Cat.

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## THE SUFFOLK BOOK LEAGUE and THE OPEN ROAD BOOKSHOP, STOKE by NAYLAND



### By Ellie Mead

I have recently become a member of the Suffolk Book League. A friend who is on the committee suggested it and I really don't know why I haven't joined before. Their website ([suffolkbookleague.org](http://suffolkbookleague.org)) proclaims that their aim is 'promoting the never-ending joy of books and reading in Suffolk'. Their member events, currently online, are mainly lectures by or interviews with authors, often with a Suffolk link. Their Facebook page declares 'We are a local literary group with a difference! Suffolk Book League promotes the pleasure of reading by bringing popular and distinguished writers to Suffolk.'

I enjoyed an online interview with my friend James Canton, whose latest book *The Oak Papers*, was book of the week on Radio 4.

Then I watched the local author Matt Gaw interviewed about his latest book: *Under the Stars* (his search for local dark skies areas and the effects of light pollution on the natural world) He also spoke about his previous book *The Pull of the River* (journeys in a home-made canoe on local rivers.) This book also explores the theme of friendship versus isolation. The journey on the River Waveney is made in homage to the late great nature writer Roger Deakin. Well having watched Matt's interview I was keen to get my hands on a copy of his books. As a



keen kayaker and advocate of dark skies I felt a bond with this newly discovered author.

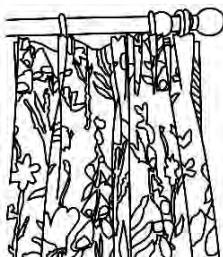
So in the depths of lockdown I phoned Dave Charleston who runs The Open Road Bookshop at Stoke by Nayland.

Yes, he had a copy of one of Matt's books and could order me in the other. So when 12<sup>th</sup> April came and Dave was allowed to open again my first outing for a very long time was to The Open Road to collect my books and to have a browse whilst I was there. In happier times The Open Road has hosted Book launches and Poetry Readings. It was good to have a chat with Dave on all things bookish.

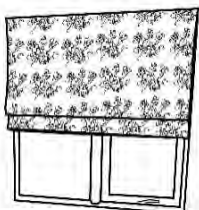
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# NATIONAL GRID CONSULTATION



In the light of the launch of the public consultation which commenced at the end of March 2021, (see <https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/bramford-twinstead>) the Parish Council has already become involved in representing the interests of the village of Assington.

New upgrades and services are necessary, as offshore wind is being developed and around 60% of the current offshore wind projects will come ashore along the East Coast.

This is coupled with new nuclear generation proposed at Sizewell C and greater interconnection with countries across the North Sea, and National Grid therefore expects to see a significant increase in the level of renewable and low carbon electricity generation connecting in East Anglia.

While the existing high voltage electricity network in East Anglia has been sufficient until today, it doesn't have the capability needed to reliably and securely transport all the energy that will be connected by 2030 while working to the required standards.

In the first half of this decade National Grid is planning to invest significantly in upgrading the existing network, but that still won't deliver the capability that is needed by the end of the decade; they will also need to reinforce the region's electricity network to address this, including between Bramford and Twinstead.

Our MP, James Cartlidge, is working with fellow East Anglian MPs to request that any and all new planning processes by all the companies involved for the conveyance of power through (or around the coast of) East Anglia be co-ordinated. This would help to reduce duplication of means and ways of the transmission of power to the rest of the country from the East Anglian coast, and will hopefully achieve a more future-proof and environmentally acceptable plan, using methods and routes which have less impact on the

inhabitants and the Suffolk countryside. Assington PC has also written to the Minister and endorsed this viewpoint and request. Assington Parish Council has also accepted an invitation to join a local group of councils within Babergh affected by the Bramford-Twinstead proposals, in order to be able to co-ordinate a combined response.

This is only the start of what is likely to be a long and involved process. Although Assington PC can make representation it is vitally important that everybody gets involved and uses the consultation process before it is too late to influence decisions and outcomes.

## TONY HOWCROFT WRITES:

National Grid has begun a consultation on its **proposal to replace the smaller line of pylons through Assington with a larger 400kV line, running from Bramford to Twinstead** and known as BTNO. The planned line runs underground through the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley AONBs, but crucially for Assington, runs on pylons from Leavenheath to Dorking Tye. The consultation website is at [www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead](http://www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead). James Cartlidge and three other local MPs have written to the Minister of State for Business, Energy and Clean Growth, requesting a halt to the consultation, given the impending start of another consultation on a new power line from Norwich to Tilbury, which could also run through Assington, known as ATNC.

A group of Assington residents close to the proposed new line are concerned about the impact of the BTNO line as currently proposed on Assington specifically, given its likely alignment to the south of the current 132kV line and the significantly larger pylons. **We would like to ask other residents of the village to consider responding to the consultation at <https://bramford-twinstead.nationalgrid.com/consultation/feedback/> by the 6 May deadline.** We suggest the following arguments to help Assington to speak with one voice to defend itself against the proposals, as the larger action groups in their AONBs have done:

1. There is broad local support for our local MPs' and Assington Parish Council's recommendation that the consultation should be halted to allow the BTNO and ATNC lines, and the region's power requirements, to be considered as a whole;
2. However, specifically in the context of this consultation, the residents of Assington appeal to National Grid to consider undergrounding as much of the proposed BTNO line as possible, and specifically the relatively short overground stretch through Section F:



This would avoid significant incremental harm to valued views and reduce the impact on the village's rural community, **as well as avoiding the need for a large sealing-end compound at Dorking Tye.**

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# ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Matters of Interest Discussed at the meeting held remotely via zoom on 22 March 2021

## 1. Neighbourhood Plan update from Cllr Wallace

We have now received the much-awaited external examiners report. It is a clear report and comments on all chapters and policies in the draft NP. Many of our policies have been accepted in full, however other policies require modification in line with the examiners recommendations. We must now work with BDC to make these changes and produce the final NP document which can then go to referendum and be accepted and adopted by BDC. If all goes to plan then the referendum is likely to be in June.

Cllr Parker reported that due to the delays in the NP process caused by Covid 19 and now the local elections the NP will be given full weighting once Babergh have received the independent examiner report. This is excellent news especially in relation to planning applications.

## 2. Planning

- Objection to **DC/21/00616 Nursery** off The Street Assington re **DC/20/03362** ongoing and still requiring answers from SCC/Babergh. Discussion of this item was postponed until later in the meeting.
- **DC/21/01392** | Discharge of Conditions relating to **DC/18/04077 Hill Farm Rise**  
Councillors agreed to object to the lights and sewage proposals as they are in opposition to the neighbourhood plan. No discharge of treated sewage should be permitted to the brook and no permanently on or uplifting features should be permitted. Cllr Hill proposed and seconded Cllr Thorogood - carried
- **EN/20/00489** Potential breach of planning control: - Land at Assington Barns and **DC/19/05808**  
Condition 5 Boundary no closed board fencing or hedging. The Parish Council expects that the conditions in the planning approval be adhered to.

## 3. Highways Update

Cllr Hill had a telephone conversation with CCllr Finch on Friday to discuss road safety after he had received a call from a member of the public who had almost been hit by a car near Hill Farm. The councillors reiterated their view that the lack of response or action from Suffolk Highways is unacceptable. CCllr Finch agreed and promised to prioritise speed limit reduction at Hill Farm.

Cllr Hill, briefly noted that the team is moving forward with community speed watch - all approved training has not yet taken place due to COVID 19 restrictions.

## 4. Quiet Lanes, Suffolk

Cllr Hill gave a detailed presentation to explain the Quiet Lanes initiative before inviting the public and the Council to ask any questions. He explained that the aim of the Quiet Lanes Initiative is to try to educate drivers to be aware of other road users, but unfortunately, it is not intended that it be able to restrict speed or road usage.

### During Questions

**Mr Miller** made a number of comments, relating to the speed and lack of care of drivers, the increase in numbers of vehicles along Warmingford Road and to Arger Fen, and the size of vehicles using narrow country lanes.

**Cllr Thorogood** commented that all 'WACHurch' vehicles should head in the Bures direction, if there is lorry traffic coming through the lane the Parish Council will need to have another word with W A Churches.

**Ms Mead** mentioned that Bures to Assington road is also the route for pedestrians, cyclists and horses. Cllr Hill agreed and expressed his disappointment that SCC turned Bures Road down as a Quiet Lane, as it is the 'main route' between Assington and Bures.

**Cllr Thorogood** said SCC Highways authority visited the parish to discuss a range of issues including how to lower speeds on the Bures Road but we are still awaiting a report of that meeting 16 months on, to which **CCllr Finch** responded that the council are trying to support community on the feeder roads, working to get speed reduction on safety part of

Neighbourhood Plans - all we can do is to educate, as moving speed limits is very expensive.

**Ms King** wanted to say thanks for the presentation - it sounds positive, it is a good idea and will have some benefits. Due to lockdown roads have become so much busier and the signs will give people the information that vulnerable people are also using the lanes.

**Cllr Wallace** supports the lanes put forward, and agreed that Bures Road should be recognised as the huge lorries are destroying the banks. She queried whether there would be any analysis on whether they are being used as quiet lanes and whether the signs are effective she is concerned that if there is no verge the lanes are not safe for cyclists.

**Cllr Jordan** requested feedback on the quiet lane initiative and the impact after it is implemented. **Cllr Finch** agreed to review this across the county and follow up on how can this be monitored.

**Cllr Symonds** Concluded that no-one is more disappointed than herself that Bures Road had not been included especially as there is a riding stables and busy School entrance along this stretch of the road. *Bures Road is also part of the South Suffolk cycle route*, and as such attracts many cyclists particularly since the start of the pandemic. She requested that APC and Highways urgently consider alternative traffic calming measures for Bures Road and possibly warning signs to slow down for horses, as there have been several equine near misses. Structural damage to her property has been caused as lorries are going down the road at such a rate that they have demolished her front garden wall, shaking the walls of the house and causing pictures to fall off the walls. At which **Cllr Thorogood** suggested looking into the provision of signs to try and slow them down.

**Cllr Hill** reported that Bures Road was put forward as a Quiet Lane but was rejected by Suffolk Highways. The lanes to be included have been decided on this occasion, however, moving forward the possibility of extending the lanes involved in the scheme can be explored..

The council then put the proposal to a vote.

Cllr Hill proposed that Assington join "wave 2" of the Quiet Lanes Suffolk project and that Barracks road, High Road, Marshalls Green, Hagmore Green (known as Assington Lane), Warmingford Road, and Upper Road are designated as Quiet Lanes Cllr Thorogood seconded the proposal and Councillors unanimously approved. It was also requested that monitoring of the effect of the lanes was conducted.

## 5. Questions to the Chair

### ◆Update on Judicial Review

With reference to the Yorley Nursery the judge refused permission for a review. We have incurred costs of about £6k from Babergh District Council. Although Funds had been raised for fighting the action in court, as this is not now going to happen the steering group had agreed to return these funds. Cllr Hill Reported that an application was made to reduce the costs raised against the Parish Council, however, this application has been unsuccessful.

General discussion followed. Cllr Thorogood proposed that we have to accept that Assington PC will have to pay the bill and if we can get a contribution from members of the parish so much the better. This was seconded and agreed unanimously.

◆Issue relating to the sewage treatment plant behind Vicary estate: Cllr Hill inspected, following numerous reports of issues. Binders were called in and have resolved the blockage problem and the engineer is returning to site to re-inspect.

◆Cllr Symonds – As requested at the last meeting details of properties with poor internet speeds in Barracks Lane, Rose Green, Bures Road (including Moore's Farm) have been forwarded to CCllr Finch for discussions with BT/Openreach. Work currently taking place in the village will be connected in April and will serve Mill House, Mill Farm and twelve properties around Arger Fen. Openreach have recently posted a pre-planning application notice outside Chestnut Grove stating that they wish to erect eleven tall poles. Enquiries on this are ongoing.

Next scheduled **APC meeting** will be held on Monday 24 May 2021 at 7.30pm.

# THE ASSINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2021

Which was held in by video conference on  
**Monday 22 March 2021**

**1** County Councillor for The Stour Valley Division James Finch, presented his report of SCC works over the past year. This included details of:

- the SCC response to the challenges of COVID 19;
- Resurfacing of 25% of the Suffolk Highway
- Electric Vehicle Charging Points
- Fostering and Adopting in Suffolk
- Choice of Schools for September 2021
- Suffolk response to the Climate Emergency
- Investment in the natural environment
- Suffolk Archives new home "The Hold"
- Better Broadband for Suffolk
- Building decarbonisation initiative

**2** District Councillor Lee Parker presented his report on the past year:

- Staff working 'remotely' successfully,
- Kingfisher £2.4 m refurbishment,
- Abbeycroft,
- Covert Refuse collection lorries to run on hydro vegetable oil
- CIL funding
- CIFCO £1.6 m income and expecting, £1.9 m next year
- Babergh were shortlisted as finalists in Council of the Year award.
- A surplus budget was achieved in August last year, thanks to support of central government, with forecast of £4.5m budget. Challenging decisions have had to be made including the introduction of parking charges in Sudbury.
- a variety of schemes to help in the community:
  - ▶ £21m was made available to businesses,
  - ▶ home not alone initiative
  - ▶ 45 new built homes in Sudbury with 158 new homes planned in the next year,
  - ▶ introduction of Sudbury virtual high street,
  - ▶ helping retailers through lockdowns

**3** Police report - There was no Police report, but comments from the floor reported that Ryes school had attracted less attention than in previous years.

## **4 The Chairman Simon Thorogood gave the Parish Council report:**

There was no APM meeting last year due to lockdown, but lack of face to face meetings has not impeded progress in the community. Support has been fantastic through the pandemic to ensure that no one was missed in the village. There were lots of volunteers but few requests for help.

**Planning:** the village grows at a great pace, the nursery school caused a lot of concern and we will all be pleased to draw that to a conclusion.

Parish Councillors have been drawing on a lot of their precious time, and we will all be sorry to see John Symonds resign after approaching 40 years service; he has been a huge asset both in the village and as a Parish Councillor. Gratitude was expressed to Jane Hatton who had been the Parish Clerk for a number of years, but who resigned with effect from December 2020.

Thanks were extended to several members of the community for their tireless work in Parish-related capacities.

**5** Mr Cowlin sent a written report on the Assington Association for 2020, which was read by Councillor Stacey: The Assington Association is a not-for-profit organisation which funds our village magazine, The Assington News.

Our Editor, Bronwen Stacey, published 10 editions throughout 2020, including several pages of colour photos of the Horticultural Show in the October edition. This year each issue has also been published on the Parish Council website, in colour.

Thanks again to the advertisers and generous contributions from individuals, the Parish Council and the organisers of the Horticultural Show, our finances remain in reasonable order. Our income from all sources exceeded expenditure on printing etc this year by about £250, but there have been a number of advertisers not renewing for 2021, which is causing concern, largely due to Coronavirus affecting their businesses. I confirm the books have again been ably audited by Ian Clark.

Thanks are due to all the contributors of articles and reports for the magazine, and to the volunteers who deliver it around the village. As ever, Bronwen, our editor looks forward to receiving your articles and reports, please, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## **6** Mr King issued a report for the Assington Village Charity:

The first Lockdown against the spread of Covid-19 began on 23 March 2020 which closed the Playground so joyously opened a fortnight previously. All lettings for the Hall and Playing Field were cancelled, apart from the Post Office which remained open on Wednesday mornings.

At the virtual AGM on 6 May 2020, Claire Osborne took over as Charity Secretary and the current Chair Stephen King, and Treasurer Sue Sadler-Brunning, agreed to continue in post, as did all the other members of the committee. Our Independent Auditor welcomed a business plan submitted by Dr John Symons to fulfil our responsibilities to the Charities Commission. The Charity benefitted from £2155 income from investments (a drop of 18% from 2019) and with the aid of Government Grants we reached year ended 31 December with a net profit of £8772. In September, the Charity bank accounts were moved online with two signatories required for each payment, speeding up the transfer of monies and avoiding any physical contact.

At the end of June, the Playground was re-opened and in August the Horticultural Show took place in a marquee on the Playing Field.

On September 1 at a virtual committee meeting, it was agreed to re-open the hall as soon as possible under strict social distancing and cleaning rules. Nettie Osman volunteered to oversee the provision of supplies and signage to comply with Covid-19 regulations in the Hall and Playground. At a further meeting held at the end of September, each new letting was asked to produce a Risk Assessment for Covid-19 regulation compliance, and the Post Office reverted to Monday and Wednesday opening. In October the hot air recycling heating system was replaced by floor standing convector heaters to prevent aerial transmission of the virus. There followed two bookings from the HappySounds Community Choir and the Yoga Group who met until Lockdown #2 started in November. The outlook for fully re-opening the hall looked increasingly unlikely as Christmas approached, and Lockdown #3 confirmed the worst.

During the year, the Playing Field was cut and pitch-marked by Thomas Wallis in preparation for a team from Hadleigh Football Club. They were unable to play despite several attempts because the restrictions were too limiting.

I am grateful for the support of our current committee through this most difficult year. My special thanks are to our Caretaker Paul Battle and Cleaner Stephanie Gould who between them have checked and cleaned the systems in the hall and kept us safe. I would also like to thank Nettie Osman for her tremendous help in making the hall and playground Covid-secure.

With the possibility of Lockdown #3 easing off our AGM is scheduled for the middle of May. Every effort will be made to hold the AGM in the hall, with suitable social distancing. At this

meeting, the term of office of all members of the committee comes to an end. They may be re-elected or re-appointed. All residents of the area age 18 and over can attend. **We will be looking for at least two new members to replace Nettie Osman and Wesley Benton who have resigned through pressure of work.**

#### **7 Mr Symons report on the Parochial Church Council (emailed after the meeting)**

This year has presented great challenges and also opportunities for the church. For much of the year the church building has been closed, and during the time in the autumn of 2020 when we were allowed to worship within the church there was no singing, but mask wearing and social distancing.

There have been no weddings in church and no funerals inside church; the major events (carol service, church fete, etc.) didn't happen. All very different both for how we express our faith and for how we managed to pay for the infrastructure on which we rely, the church maintenance and the cost of our clergy.

However, the lockdown has also enabled us to improve greatly our skills at on line services, seminars and talks, no longer limited by concerns of travel we are able to reach a wide audience. Those of us that regularly attend church here have not only continued to meet and worship with our friends here but have enjoyed services and events from all over the world. We certainly hope to soon return to our lovely church but hopefully will also continue to use these new opportunities to reach, or be part of, a much wider audience.

Cllr Stacey reported that early in 2020 a grant had been obtained which enabled all the downpipes and hoppers to be replaced on the church, also the vestry west roof was repaired. Since lockdown, during which no services were held, services resumed in the summer on alternate weeks. The church was unable to hold Christmas Services due to the second lockdown. Maintenance-wise the Churchyard has continued to be mown regularly by volunteers, with only one major cut in the autumn, which takes the donation from the PC.

**8 Mr King gave the report on behalf of the Allotment Association**, which was printed in the April Edition of the Assington News and so is not duplicated here.

#### **9 Ms Grant reported on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Barracks Road:**

- Fire Hydrants at top of Marshall's Green and at the Threeways Green 'triangle': The former has been further knocked back and down so is invisible while the latter is in danger of again being knocked over.
- Two pedestrians walking were almost run over by a very large vehicle travelling around a bend at "about 40 miles an hour". The driver of the vehicle was also shocked and did an emergency stop.
- Litter on the verges and the roads (Marshall's Green and Barracks Lane) remains a persistent problem.
- Stephen King and residents of both Lanes regularly pick up the litter (wearing gloves) and dispose of it more appropriately in bins.
- Comments on the condition of the roads and verges continue to be made. In places, the tarmac has separated from the verge so creating a 'ditch' - a hazard for cars, cyclists and horses forced to the side while avoiding an oncoming vehicle.
- Concerns have been made regarding the danger to the brook which runs beneath Barracks Lane.
- Some months ago heavy rain caused overflowing of the road drainage grills at the bottom of the Barracks Lane/ Marshall's Green Footpath steps. A passing pedestrian observed diesel was floating on top of the water. The pedestrian reported the incident to a member of the Assington Parish Council.
- Assington Autos: Recently a break-in was attempted in the early hours of the morning. Entry was gained by means of a ladder over a roof and according to Fred Cook a sledgehammer was used to attempt the break-in.

#### **10 Ms Hollingsworth Reported on the Parish Footpaths:**

- FP16 - notified of fallen tree blocking footpath. Landowner was contacted and quickly made the way passable again
- FP12 - At The Street, the steps and finger post were replaced
- FP 8 - near the village hall entrance, the finger post that was rotten and had been knocked down, was replaced
- FP12 - At 3-ways both flights of steps were refurbished
- FP13 - at The Street, the top rung of the stile was removed to make passage across easier
- FP12 - midway along near the junction with FP20, the low level stile was replaced by David Hodge, the landowner
- On A134 opposite entrance to Marshalls Green Road, the finger post was replaced, as it had been knocked down
- On A134 both sides of the road at Home Farm, FP15/22, both finger posts replaced as rotting through at bases
- We have clipped around finger posts, to make them more visible and have litter picked the high use areas frequently

Items outstanding:

We have made a request to Suffolk Highways to provide a solution to the very wet, boggy area from the kissing gate to the bridge on FP 20. Unfortunately the footpaths have become very muddy and worn this year, due to COVID 19 leading to more people walking the footpaths than usual, combined with a high winter rainfall.

We have passed on our thanks to Eugene Corkhill for the works that he has carried out this past year.

#### **11 Cllr Wallace reported on the Neighbourhood Plan:**

- In 2020 the Neighbourhood Plan regular team meeting were disrupted by the Covid 19 lockdown regulations. However communication continued successfully by e-mail between the group, Places4People consultant Ian Poole and the Parish Council and in August 2020, the draft plan was ready and submitted to Babergh District Council.
- Following this the plan has gone through the necessary consultation period, however delays have occurred as a result of Covid 19. The independent examiner's report, which was due in December 2020 was subject to such delays and so the examiner could not do a site visit until February 2021 and the completed report was received in March 2021.
- The examiner has made modifications to some of the policies in the draft Neighbourhood Plan and lays down her evidence and rational for this in line with national legislation. Subject to making these modifications the plan is assessed as meeting the basic requirements and the examiner has recommended to Babergh District Council the plan can go forward to referendum.
- The next stage is to work with Babergh District Council to make the necessary changes and produce the final NP document. If all can go to plan then the referendum could be as soon as June 2021.
- The Neighbourhood Plan team have worked tirelessly to get to this stage and I would like to thank the members for their continued commitment and support. In addition I would like to thank the Parish Council for their prompt responses when needed and ongoing support. Together we are in the final stages of achieving our ambition of a functioning document and working towards our vision for Assington as stated in the plan:

**"In 2036 Assington will remain a rural and attractive village, having protected its countryside setting by ensuring that new development is in proportion to and respectful of the character of the village, while at the same time maintaining a thriving, vibrant and open community."**

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

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# PARISH CHURCH NEWS

*Letter from the Rev Simon White  
Associate Priest, Bures with  
Assington and Little Cornard*

Dear Friends,

Easter Sunday is now a fading memory happening as it did way back on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April but the church continues to celebrate the season of Easter which is a joyous time of 50 days including Ascension Day on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> May and ending with Pentecost on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May. I am not sure any of us have the appetite to eat a chocolate egg every one of those 50 days but perhaps we can remember it is a time of celebration in other ways.

Of course, Eastertide this year has been marked by other important moments. The passing of HRH Prince Philip and others dear to us mean that there is going to be a mixture of emotions. There are so many groups who have struggled over the last year but we should remember students and their teachers coming towards the end of an academic year that surely none could have expected let alone planned for. Into this mix of emotions, let's also add in the cautious optimism that many are feeling about the current state of the pandemic and the data that shows how much the situation has improved since Christmas. In their day to day lives people are keeping a close eye on the roadmap out of the pandemic with May 17<sup>th</sup> being another key date when just maybe - if we've been careful enough - more activities in and outdoors will be thought safe enough to happen.

In a way the Biblical story of that first Easter season has similarities with today. It wasn't all celebration. After the events of Holy Week, the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday was a joyous moment but actually it took a long time for people to start to appreciate what had happened. Their excitement was mixed up with lots of questions and even while they were still trying to understand, Jesus left them ascending to heaven. Those close to him at that time didn't fully appreciate why Jesus, who lived his earthly life in one very small part of the world, needed to ascend to heaven so God could then send the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to be with everyone everywhere but we are able to see the bigger plan.

For anyone and everyone who isn't sure about how God the father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit relate we end May with Trinity Sunday.  
Best wishes,

Simon

Vicar:	Rev Steve Morley	227407
Reader:	Dr John Symons	211534
Associate		
Priest	Rev Simon White	07572 418555
Organist:	Bronwen Stacey	210354
Sec:	Emily Cartlidge	07976 724266
Treasurer:	Ian Clark	211133
Churchwardens:		
	Roger Britcher	211021
	Bronwen Stacey	210354



**Assington Church now has its own website.**

The full address is '<https://assingtonchurch.org.uk>

## Schedule of services at Assington Church in May

It is likely that Services will be held in Church on the second and fourth Sundays in May:

**Sunday 9th May at 10.30am Holy Communion**

**Sunday 23rd May at 10.30am Morning Worship**

However, please see local notices nearer the dates for up to date details

Assington Church

Services are beginning to resume. More information can be found on our website:

**zoom**

Get Together

Every Sunday morning

Please get in contact if you would like to receive invitations

 [assingtonchurch.org.uk](https://assingtonchurch.org.uk)

Email [office@parishchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@parishchurch.co.uk) if you want to receive regular news about what's happening or ring:

Revd Steve Morley - 01787 227407

Revd Simon White - 07572 418555



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# BOXFORD SCHOOL NEWS

By Callie Bradbury

## Happy Easter!!!

I hope you have all had a wonderful Easter break. As it is around the Easter time, I am going to remind you all of what Easter really is.

It's been really good being back in school rather than doing home schooling. I've enjoyed seeing all my friends and learning in class. We've also had 2 weeks off for the Easter holidays which was also good fun even though there have still been lots of restrictions on what we are allowed to do.

## Easter

You may think Easter is a time to eat a load of chocolate but actually we have learned it is to remember that Jesus was killed on the cross and then he came alive again on Easter Sunday. The Easter story follows Jesus in his last days on Earth, up until he was resurrected by God on Easter Sunday. The story of Easter is really important to Christians, who see the resurrection as proof of Jesus being God's son.

On the Thursday (Maundy Thursday) before his death, Jesus held what is now known as 'The Last Supper'. It was here that he dined with his disciples, feeding them the bread and wine. Jesus also washed the feet of his disciples, maybe to help teach them about the importance of humility and looking after other people.

It was at The Last Supper that Jesus said one of his disciples was going to betray him.



## UPDATE ON NURSERY

We reported in last month's edition of the magazine that, unfortunately, the High Court had not given the Parish Council permission to proceed with our challenge to Babergh's grant of planning permission for a new nursery to be built close to the junction with the A134; and the Parish Council judged that the risks and costs of seeking to contest that judgement were too high.

However, our campaign demonstrated the extremely high level of local support for what we were trying to achieve with over 250 people signing up to the petition.

The current landowners have reflected and have concluded that they do not wish to proceed with the transfer of the land. The Nursery has also been told that it can continue to operate from Yorley Barn.



True enough, Judas identified Jesus to the Roman soldiers by kissing him on the cheek. Jesus was crucified (nailed to a cross) on Good Friday. After he had died, he was placed in a tomb and a heavy stone was rolled over the doorway so that no one could get in.

On what is now called Easter Sunday, people were amazed to find that the heavy stone had been rolled to one side and Jesus was no longer in the tomb. Jesus then appeared to many of his followers later that day.

## School news

During the Easter holidays, all of us at Boxford School were told that we could do the Boxford readathon. The readathon gets children reading and raises money for the school to help fund a refurbishment of the library. The readathon ends on the 16<sup>th</sup> April so good luck and keep reading!!!

The half term value is **CREATIVITY** the school is hoping for some wonderfully creative things like music, art and anything really. Soon we should have a creative mad school!!!



## JUDICIAL REVIEW: FUNDRAISING

A new crowdfunding page:

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/assingtonjfund](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/assingtonjfund)

has been set up to enable those people who wish to help APC with the initial costs of the judicial review to be able to do so. Cheques can also be posted to Squirrel House, The Street.

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*London Evening Standard*

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*Fiona Duncan, Sunday Telegraph*

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