

# ASSIGNMENT

NEWS



NOVEMBER 2025

# 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	Karl Debenham <i>The new Chair is Bryn Hurren</i>	07584 996211
Assington Baby and Toddler Group	Rev Tricia Box	07747 124592
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	
Boxford CEVC Primary School ( <a href="mailto:office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk">office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk</a> )	Head: Emma Lea	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moira Grant	01787 211513
Church - Treasurer ( <a href="mailto:treasurerassington@parishchurch.co.uk">treasurerassington@parishchurch.co.uk</a> )	Tony Hufnagel	
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	07970 196884
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 370011
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Floodline 24/7	SCC Flood Management	0345 606 6171
Footpath Warden	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
Horticultural Society	Karen Wiles	
Member of Parliament ( <a href="mailto:james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk">james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk</a> )	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Mobile Library - Vicary Estate Junction	Saturday 1st November	3pm - 3.30pm
Parish Council	Simon Thorogood	01787 227400
<a href="mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com">bronwenstacey@btinternet.com</a>	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
<a href="mailto:david.wiles@live.co.uk">david.wiles@live.co.uk</a>	David Wiles	07811 108702
<a href="mailto:tony@howcroft.net">tony@howcroft.net</a>	Tony Howcroft	
<a href="mailto:andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com">andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com</a>	Andrew Hill	01787 827112
Parish Council - Clerk ( <a href="mailto:clerk@assington-pc.gov.uk">clerk@assington-pc.gov.uk</a> )	Christine Hargan	01449 674727
Pub – The Shoulder of Mutton		01787 210334
Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School ( <a href="mailto:admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk">admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk</a> )	Head: Mrs Kelly McGrath	01206 262418
Vicar ( <a href="mailto:vicar@parishchurch.co.uk">vicar@parishchurch.co.uk</a> )	The Revd Daniel Whiffin	07309 947039
Village Hall – Bookings	Karen Wiles	07983 002072
Village Hall - Caretaker	Sean Mills	07547 190948
Village Hall - Charity Secretary		
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, £120 for a full page advert. Contact Jeff Stacey, 01787 210354, [assingtonassociation@icloud.com](mailto:assingtonassociation@icloud.com)**  
**The Assington Association Bank Account details for payments and donations:**  
 Account no: **01345159**. Sort Code: **30-98-31**. Please make cheques payable to **The Assington Association**.

**The ASSINGTON NEWS** NOW IN COLOUR ONLINE at <https://assington-pc.gov.uk/assington-news/>

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# ASSINGTON HARVEST IN PICTURES

*harvest supper*



*Performing:  
John reciting his poems;  
Simon singing;  
Rev Simon, master of ceremonies;*



*The Harvest Service in church, which was beautifully decorated with apples, boughs of berries and old man's beard by John;*



*David delivering his harvest loaves.....*

*later seen decorating the altar in church, along with Louisa's wonderful floral harvest arrangements;*



*Flowers in the porch and on the font and entrance by Bronwen;*



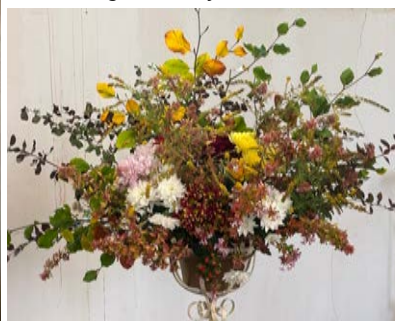
*Grateful thanks to Siew Taylor for flowers from her wonderful garden;*



*Pulpit flower arrangement by Emily;*



*Arrangement by Monica*



*and the Food Collection delivery for Sudbury Storehouse.*

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50% donated to the Assington church tower project

## OPEN MORNINGS

4 October 2025 & 12 November 2025

10:00am - 12:00pm



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# VILLAGE NEWS

## AND STILL THEY COME...messages of thanks for help with the FETE

### Thanks from Sally Bradshaw for your cake donations for the Fete:

I would like to thank all the people who helped me on the refreshments stall on the day of the fete for their support, and all those wonderful bakers that made us such lovely cakes.

Sally

### Thanks from The Reverend Simon White:

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Church Fete such a great success again. We try to make the Fete as much of a village social event as we can and it was a delight to meet up with many from the village and beyond, including some who moved away from Assington many years ago but returned for the afternoon.

I'm ever aware that some people gave up their afternoon to look after a stall or an attraction and perhaps didn't get to see everything else that was on offer and to them I am especially grateful.

In previous years we have spent a lot of time in The Shoulder talking about the arrangements event, but that wasn't possible so this year our get togethers met under the awning of the village hall. It was during those meetings that we had the idea that the food and drink should carry on after the raffle had been drawn and prizes awarded, so that people could sit and chat. In the end the wet weather got the better of us although many still stayed beyond six o'clock. Sadly Ian Jordan wasn't with us this year, but his friends kindly donated many of his and Matthew's books, jigsaws and ornaments, and I like to think Ian and Matthew would be pleased that others will get enjoyment from them.

Thanks must go to Sally, her family and friends who looked after us with drinks and lovely things to eat. Liz's cake stall did well as did David's barbeque that was new this year. Also new this year were the visit of Simon's Bee Hotel and Wilf's crochet creations.

It was lovely to see so many different vehicles visiting us again and thanks must go to Simon Whitbread for arranging that. Sarah's children's tent was busier than ever with youngsters crafting all sorts of things from the boxes of bits and pieces. The hammering in the 6" nails competition got very competitive with Leonie Britcher beating allcomers with a remarkable 27 nails in 30 second record.

A big thank you must go to Simon and Bernadette who made and brought along lots of traditional fete attractions and yards of bunting that really added to the feel of the fete. Their 'Coconut shy', 'Tin Can Alley' and 'Splat-the-Rat' games were great fun.

Thank you to the local businesses that donated raffle prizes and helped publicise the Fete.

As I said earlier the church fete is primarily a social event but it goes a long way towards supporting the work of the church in the village which relies entirely on donations for its existence so your support is much valued and appreciated.

One of the challenges of trying to thank everyone involved is that I am bound to forget lots of people but please know that you are thanked whether you helped make the event happen or came along to enjoy the festivities. Together we made it a special afternoon for the village with young and old coming together to have some fun and catch-up with each other.

With many thanks,

**Simon**

# THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 2025

Dear Village

At this time of year we prepare to remember the 11th of November Armistice Day.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We decorate our church with poppies and reflect on those brave people who were killed during the Two World Wars, and thank this still serving who protect us and our country.

The usual poppy boxes will be found at The Farm Shop The Foxes Den, ABC Cafe at The Barn, and The Shoulder of M:utton (which happily is now up and running again)!!

There will be "Poppy People" going around with collecting tins prior to the 11th November, but we are getting a little thin on the ground this year so please forgive us if we fail to get around to everyone!

Many people rely on cards and don't carry cash which does make donating awkward but please find a way around this problem, as the Royal British Legion really does need your support.

Thank you,

**Louisa Symons**

'Centuries' 01787 211534

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Hello All,

It is the time of year when our country takes time to Remember Our Fallen of all conflicts, who paid the ultimate sacrifice to give us the freedom that we enjoy today.

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of November I shall again parade The Union Standard through the village in Royal British Legion Standard Bearer Uniform. I shall set off from Rose Green at 09.45 and parade to the church; please show your respect for a few seconds if you are able to.



**We Will Remember Them,  
All gave some,  
some gave all.**

Kind regards  
David

*Everyone is invited to join us for the church service, which movingly combines the paying of respects to our local 'lost men' of Assington with the National Act of Remembrance which is broadcast at 11am.*



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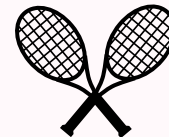
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# HAPPYSOUNDS CHOIR CONCERT DATES ANNOUNCED from Nettie



Hi and hope you're all looking forward to the festive season! We have two fantastic performances lined up this year. Our main Charity fundraiser is at Long Melford Church on Saturday 20th December at 5pm, featuring our very own HappySounds Community Choir, plus support from local Choir Sudbury Sings, and Barbershop group the VIP's. This year it's in aid of Macmillan via My Wish, in memory of Assington choir member Ted Nichols, and also Sudbury domestic violence charity Compassion. Our target is £2000, please help us reach it. It's going to be a great evening, with some audience participation too! Tickets are £10 and are available from [info@happysounds.co.uk](mailto:info@happysounds.co.uk).

Also....catch us at a (top secret) concert! I can say no more other than be at Perrywood's Christmas Shopping Evening in the new building on Wednesday 19th November from around 6.45pm!!! That's all folks - hope to see you there.



Gwen, Gwen's sister Moira and niece Leslie-Anne made the trip down to Assington from Scotland.



Partridge Row had to be visited by the ladies, and whilst they were standing admiring the cottages, nearby resident Julia Jones invited them to look at her property and garden, so that they could recall the cottage and garden of their grandmother/great-grandmother (respectively).



After this delightful opportunity, they then proceeded to the church, to see the organ, and to visit the graveyard. All the family feels a great affinity with the church and the village where Gerald grew up.

They also had an old photograph of Gerald as a very young pupil at Assington School, and wondered whether anybody still in the village has any comparable photographs.

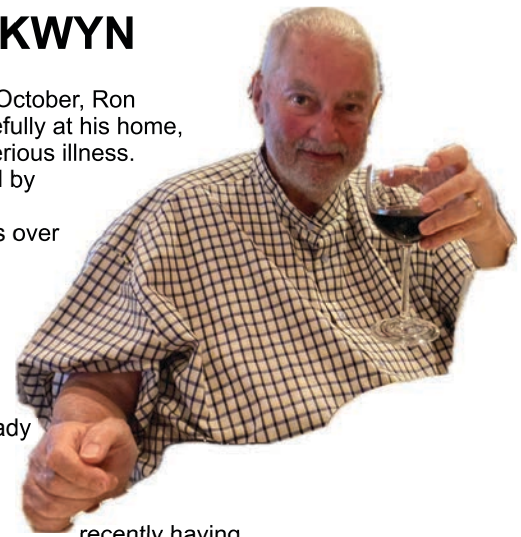
and maybe can name other pupils (although this was probably 1926 or soon after that! - a hundred years ago!)



## RON VOLKWYN

On Thursday, 16th October, Ron passed away peacefully at his home, following a short serious illness. He had been visited by numerous friends and relatives over the previous couple of weeks, demonstrating love from everyone for a person with a big heart.

Ron was always ready to lend a hand, and liked to participate in village activities, recently having helped with both the Horticultural Show raffle and the Wine competition stand at the Village Fete. ....His love of champagne was probably legendary, but he wasn't averse to the odd glass of wine, too!



Ron will be missed by so many people, who will miss his whacky sense of humour and "schoolboy" jokes. We will all remember Ron with fondness, and a smile lurking on our lips as we imagine his next joke.

At present it is too early to give any further details of service in his commemoration. **RIP Ron.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## SMITH FAMILY VISITS TO ASSINGTON

you may remember the article in the September magazine about Gerald Smith, and his son Michael who visited Assington Church to play the organ where his father had played as a boy.

Visits from various members of the Smith family have continued:

A special trip to celebrate 'joint' 70th and 50th birthdays of Gerald Smith's daughter, Moira and her daughter Leslie-Anne, meant that Martina, her mother





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**Thursdays** 6.30pm, Assington  
Village Hall

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[www.happysounds.co.uk](http://www.happysounds.co.uk)



# THINGS TO DO

Nayland with Wissington Community Council's

## BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

### NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>

**NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL**  
 Limited parking in village - Please walk if you can  
 Disabled parking only at Village Hall CO6 4JH

TICKETS IN ADVANCE from [www.naylandevents.org](http://www.naylandevents.org)  
 Adults £8 - Children £3 - Family £18  
 Tickets on gate (subject to availability): Adults £10 - Children £5

HOT DOGS \* SOFT DRINKS \* MULLED WINE  
 BEER \* FISH & CHIPS \* ICE CREAM \* CHILDREN'S TREATS  
 available from 6pm  
 Display by Firework Crazy  
**STARTS 7pm**  
 GUY & BONFIRE after Fireworks  
[www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk](http://www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk)

## Assington Baby & Toddler Group

Mums, dads, grandparents, carers and childminders living in and around Assington. Bring your little ones to a friendly, accompanied babies and toddlers group in the lovely, airy Village Hall

11 and 18 September  
 9 & 23 October, 13 & 27 November, 11 December  
 8 & 22 January 2026, 12 & 26 February,  
 12 & 26 March, 23 April, 14 May,  
 11 & 25 June, 9 July, 10 September

Thursday twice a month in termtime  
 from 9:30-11.00 am, at £3 per family



Revd Tricia Box - 07747124592

Nayland Choir presents...

## What Sweeter Music

Songs for Winter, including seasonal music  
 by John Rutter and Bob Chilcott

### Sunday 7th December

Nayland Village Hall  
 Doors open 3.30pm Concert 4pm  
 Tickets: £10, under 18s free  
 Mulled Wine & Mince Pies for all!  
 Available from [naylandevents.org](http://naylandevents.org)

## Hadleigh Choral Society

All are invited to join us at St Mary's Church on **Saturday 22nd November** for a truly unforgettable evening of very special music featuring masterpieces by Mozart and Haydn...with soaring harmonies and thrilling double choruses guaranteed not to disappoint! Hadleigh Choral Society will be joined by professional soprano, alto, tenor and bass soloists and Colchester Symphony Orchestra as we perform Mozart's Great Mass in C Minor and Haydn's Te Deum, with a bonus Mozart Clarinet Concerto featuring soloist Andy Cory on bassett horn. Christopher Phelps will conduct the evening which will start at 7:30pm. Tickets are £18 or free for those in full time education, and are available online, at The Idler bookshop in Hadleigh, or through choir members. For more information visit [www.hadleighchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.hadleighchoralsociety.org.uk).

## Assington Advent Windows Trail

Select a date from 1st -24th December  
 Decorate a window  
 Illuminate your design on your selected date

Contact Anna via facebook or email  
[annacclayton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annacclayton@hotmail.co.uk) with your chosen date and house name/number

A list will be available on the village notice boards and on facebook - see how many you can find!

### 'Last Tuesday'

Coffee and Chat in the Village Hall  
 The next meetings will be on **Tuesday 25th November** at 10am.  
 See you there!

## WINSTONS WHEELS DISABLED DOG CHARITY NO 1191322

WILL BE AT A **CHRISTMAS FAYRE IN THE BULL HOTEL, LONG MELFORD ON SATURDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER 11am - 3pm** running their Christmas -themed **TOMBOLA PLUS CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS AND DECORATIONS.** PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT US. **THANK YOU, and MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

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# THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON OPEN AGAIN!

On the evening of Thursday 9th October The Shoulder reopened its doors, to be filled to 'capacity' with people eager to participate in a much-awaited event, and to enjoy the conviviality of an evening with friends and neighbours in a much-loved venue.



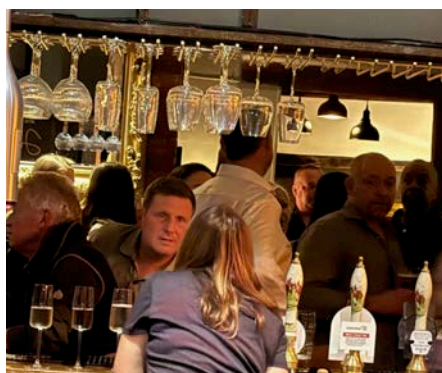
The new landlord Mr Harris has spent much time and money to clear away the bad memories of its failing last days under its previous landlord, and to install new facilities and re-decorate to renew its appeal.

The gold-framed mirrors, framed by glowing lighting added a touch of glamour to other subtle touches and changes to bring a new appeal and new ways of working.

There was much excitement, chatter and laughter throughout the evening as some of the early birds left, to be replaced by some of the 'later arrivals at the ball'.



Long may it continue!



## ..... with MEMORIES OF EARLIER DAYS From Nick Miller:

My first memory is as a small boy, standing outside the Mutton, looking up and down The Street - a sparse, plain place I thought (in those days), all red brick - no cars, of course.

Anecdotes from my father's youth:

The landlord was Sam Gain.

The entrance was where the (former) off-licence door is now; in typical pub layout of former times, a corridor then ran ahead, with a door on the left to the Lounge Bar, and on the right to the public bar. Each bar had its own counter.



After closing, the policeman would often stand outside, to frighten late drinkers - "many-a-time" my father would then exit via the small window near the dartboard.

My own recollections:

Even in the time of TV, in the days before supermarket beer, the pub would often be packed, especially Friday night (people got their wages weekly, in cash). On any night except Monday, one could be sure of meeting the crowd of "regulars". Public conversation was the order of the day, drinking standing not seated helped conversation flow. Any interesting topic would have the attention of the whole bar. The chair beside the fire was strictly reserved for the oldest inhabitant, Mr Wall. Happy days!

The interior changes date from around 1980. They have included knocking both bars into one, closing off the Lounge Bar fireplace, knocking the public bar through to what was a lean-to shed, changing the fireplace from a standard one to the "open hearth", replacing the outdoor toilets which faced The Street (and had some dedication for use of the public generally), knocking through to the landlord's kitchen, to make the dining room, closing off the former off-licence (middle door) where sweets, tobacco etc could be bought, etc. But the old wood panelling on the lower half of the walls has interestingly been kept throughout - maybe a listed building requirement - long may it stay, so typical of old public buildings eg schools. Likewise the Greene King floor tiles - so good-looking and hard-wearing. The Lime tree out the front has a TPO.

When drains were dug etc, so many weird old bottles were found.

Gordon Alecock (Charlie Haylock) could certainly add more info, and much from former generations I'd say.

So many amazing characters - landlords and customers! Where does the time go?

...And see the next page for Gordon Alecock's recollections:

## MEMORIES FROM FORMER LANDLORD, GORDON ALECOCK, (AKA CHARLIE HAYLOCK)

"Old" residents of Assington (I use the term advisedly to indicate that they have lived in Assington for many years!) will know that the now-famous - nationally, as well as more regionally- Charlie Haylock used to be the landlord of the Shoulder of Mutton from the late 1970s until the mid 1980s. Charlie, whose real name is, appropriately for a pub landlord, Gordon Alecock, has since become an authority on regional dialects; he has written books and undertaken tours giving presentations and lighthearted (but informative) talks on how and why people speak differently in different parts of the country.

It was in this respect that his expertise was sought by the makers of the much-acclaimed film "The Dig", which was about the discovery of an undisturbed ship burial containing a wealth of Anglo-Saxon artifacts, at Sutton Hoo, the site of Anglo-Saxon burial mounds dating from the 6th to 7th centuries near Woodbridge. Charlie 'taught' /advised the actor Ralph Fiennes who played the part of Basil Brown, the amateur archeologist, to 'speak like a native' of Suffolk.

Here, Gordon has most kindly supplied us with his memories of his time as Landord of The Shoulder of Mutton:

Gordon Alecock (aka Charlie Haylock) and wife Cathy Alecock arrived at The Mutton in the late 1970s.

Gordon noticed, that in the wooden garage that adjoined The Mutton . . . there was a blocked off door that would have opened into the public bar . . . and a blocked off fireplace that would have adjoined the one on the opposite side.

Gordon made some fundamental changes throughout. He:

1. Converted the garage into an extension of the public bar by opening up the door and the fireplace;
2. Converted the pub dining room (adjacent to the road) into the kitchen;
3. Converted the pub kitchen (which had adjoined the saloon bar) into a restaurant area. It was then that the builder's plaque was uncovered on the chimney breast ;
4. The plaster was taken off most of the walls throughout to reveal the old brickwork;
5. A car parking area was established at the back of the pub alongside a garden area;
6. Gordon installed central heating throughout the building;
7. It was kept as a "two-bar" pub . . . public bar with a saloon bar and restaurant;
8. Instead of the children waiting outside in the cold and rain waiting for the school bus . . . Gordon opened up the pub doors in the morning . . . so they had somewhere dry and warm to wait . . . And a free jukebox to put them in a good mood for school . . . The bus driver would bib his horn . . . and out they all piled and onto the bus.

### Notable Events

Gordon invited John Lever (Essex and England cricketer) to "The Mutton" on a fundraising evening (see photos)

Gordon set up an annual "**Mutton Superstars**" Competition to raise funds for local Assington amenities. Only regulars of "The Mutton" and those people who lived within the parish boundary were allowed to enter. There was a Men's section and a Ladies' section:

There were 12 events to choose from, namely: darts, horseshoes, pot-the-penny, yard of ale, air rifle shoot, 100yd dash, welly wanging, long run, basketball penalties, putting, tossing the bale and football penalties . . . competitors had to choose a maximum of 8 events . . . Some events took place at "The Mutton", some at Moors Farm and some on the playing field.

The number of competitors taking part far exceeded expectations . . .

There was an average of over 50 contestants each year. Every event winner won a medal and overall winners and runner-ups received trophies at the end of competition dance in the village hall.

The first overall winners were Bob Brooks from Further Street and Lolly Evans from Vicary Estate.

The event was so popular that the young people in the village wanted a "Junior Superstars", and so that happened too.

Gordon left "The Mutton" in the mid 1980s.

One note of further interest:

Gordon's great aunt and uncle, Ollie and Sybil Carpenter were landlord and landlady of "The Mutton" way back in early 1900s. History repeating itself.

(PS see a younger Dr John Symons in the bottom photo)



# ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Matters of interest discussed during a meeting held in Assington Village Hall on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Clerk: Christine Hargan 4 Northfield Road, Onehouse, Stowmarket IP14 3HF –

Telephone: 01449 674727

Email: [clerk@assington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@assington-pc.gov.uk)

■ **Present:** Councillors (Cllrs) Simon Thorogood (Chair) Andrew Hill (Vice-Chair) and Bronwen Stacey.

**In attendance:** DCllr Lee Parker, CCllr James Finch, Christine Hargan (Clerk) and 1 member of the community.

**Apologies** for absence Cllr David Wiles, Tony Howcroft and apologies for delaying the meeting by late attendance Cllrs Stacey, Thorogood and CCllr Finch

**Declaration of Interests and requests for dispensation**

There were none

■ **Agree Minutes** of Assington Parish Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Minutes were resolved to be accurate and signed by Cllr Thorogood. Chair thanked Cllr Hill for leading the previous meeting.

■ **County and District Councillor reports and public forum**

**County Council Report CCllr Finch** having previously circulated his report updated the meeting on:

## **Devolution**

- The County Council's "One Suffolk" proposal has mentioned high adult care and Special Educational Need and Disability costs. Splitting the county into three would increase administration costs and would minimise the opportunity to benefit from negotiating key contracts for the whole county for those reasons a single policy group is preferred.
- Localism would involve 12 area groups and a quasi-consultation. The aim of the county council is a simplified reporting structure.
- One Suffolk may push for more powers to parish councils, enabling local decision-making and additional funding for parish councils would be available, because it believes in local decision making for local services.
- If no mayor is appointed, Suffolk could lose £37.4 million annually for 30 years.
- **Rural transport** Government investment includes more buses for Assington and Sudbury.
- **Norwich to Tilbury** project passed its first 28-day stage and there will be funding available for local projects. Sizewell received £250million from National Grid.
- Anglian Water has gone quiet on the Spa project. Balfour Beatty expanded their compound area. Concerns were raised about ground pollution because no membrane appeared to have been used to protect the earth to avoid the spoil polluting the ground. Concerns were voices regarding control over the larger project when it is developed. Chair was advised to Contact the local MP James Cartlidge for escalation.
- **Safety issues** were voiced on the section of road from Rose Green to Bures, known locally as the Bures straights: pedestrians with prams, and equestrians feel unsafe due to speeding traffic. Suggestions included rebuilding banks, signage, hedge trimming, and ANPR installation. PCSO funding discussed.
- Cllr Hill previously forwarded notes from a meeting with the local Highways Officer and the Parish were provided with an action list. CCllr Finch recommended identifying vehicles responsible and gaining support from the local Police. CCllr Finch agreed to organise a traffic survey and has suggested registering for the ANPR scheme which has now been extended.

**District Council report DCllr Lee Parker reported that**

- The district is consumed by reorganisation. Three unitary options have been submitted by the District Councils and one by SCC (a single unitary). All proposals are available on the website.

- The MP held a session in Hadleigh to hear both district and county cases. A show of hands indicated support for multiple unitaries.

- A public consultation will follow. The outcome could be one, two, or three unitary authorities. The proposal for three is based in Lowestoft, Bury St Edmunds, and Ipswich.

- The Local Government Review (LGR) is progressing. There will always be a call for sites, though it's not necessarily tied to housing need. BDC's five-year land supply for housing is under review despite a currently holding in excess of a six-year supply for development, appeals are being upheld and speculative applications are increasing.

## **Public Forum**

- **Public Transport:** The member of the public was concerned regarding the timing of public transport and queried why a survey had not been placed in the bus stop as advertised in the very recent Assington News. She was concerned regarding the frequency of buses and added that there is a lengthy wait of between two and three hours for a return bus to the village and also the size of the bus, a double decker is being used for a low number of passengers

Cllr Stacey agreed to place a bus survey/questionnaire at the bus stop with a request that it be either returned to Cllr Hill or emailed to the Clerk.

## ■ **Planning applications:**

- [DC/25/03891](#) The Old Post Office The Street Assington Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LJ Application for Listed Building Consent

Resolved no comment

- [DC/25/03890](#) The Old Post Office The Street Assington Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LJ Householder Application - Erection of an outbuilding with Glazed Link to existing House, and to provide ancillary accommodation; and Insertion of cast metal Conservation Rooflight to Study, to modernise,

Resolved no comment.

- [DC/25/04216](#) 5 Woodfield The Street Assington Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LN, Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/25/0298 –

Resolved, no comment

- [SCC/0122/25/DoR](#) National Grid Bramford to Twinstead construction traffic management plan.

Resolved to comment as follows:

- Minimise traffic along any of the highways in the local area during peak times.

■ Consider any planning application received since the agenda was posted

- [DC/20/01308](#) Heritage application for Shamrock Farm which are safety related works to facilitate conversion of barn into 1no dwelling.

Resolved to comment due to insufficient information the Parish Council will leave to the district council to make an informed decision.

■ Agree actions on **Correspondence** and emails circulated to Councillors by the Clerk

■ Update on new Councillors, Cllrs to contact residents with a review to recruiting additional councillors

## ■ **Finance**

- Received the RFO report.

- Reconciliation of accounts against budget: acknowledged

- Authorise payments made/to be made and note income received since last meeting: resolved to pay

- The request for exception from External Audit, acknowledged by PKF Littlejohn

■ **Review any issues raised for the Licensed Path, Footpaths and APC's Assets**

There was discussion regarding the cost of emptying litter and dog bins, however, currently there seems to be very little alternative. Clerk to obtain quotations for cutting verges and footpaths in the next financial year.

■ **Neighbourhood Plan review**

The existing plan has been forwarded to Places 4 People for review, however it will be unable to move forwards until the projected number of properties is published by BDC in the Spring. Further volunteers have come forward, it is likely that the team to review the plan will be similar to the team who created it and the costs are likely to be in the region of £15k and will be split over two financial years.

■ **Shoulder of Mutton**

Excellent news the pub is scheduled to reopen on 8 October for locals. The new landlord and his team have refurbished the kitchen and cellar and have redecorated. The residents look forward to welcoming the new landlord and his team, who have thanked the Parish Council for their input and assistance with the pub.

■ **Footpath from Orchard Road to the Village Hall**

The section of footpath from Orchard Road toward the village hall was discussed and the resurfacing was agreed in principle pending an updated estimate for the works. Clerk to request estimated costs from Mortimer Contracts and to email councillors.

■ **Questions to the Chair**

There were none

■ **Time date and place of next meeting**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November to be held in Assington Village Hall at 7.00pm.

■ The meeting was closed at 21.30 pm

# BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

## from Roz Mortlock

### CLUB FINALS DAY

On Sunday 14th September, we had our Club's Finals Day. Over the season we have been playing against each other in different matches to try and reach the Finals - and you never know who might make it to the finals. A lot of time goes into organising these matches throughout the season and then juggling and organising schedules for play on the day (not only players but also markers for matches). So a huge thanks to Kevin Colling for all his hard work to make the day run smoothly. Also thanks to our markers, who without them we could not have easily played the singles matches. And of course to our Club members who came to support the players during the day ....even staying when the heavens opened towards the end of the day. Congratulations to the winners and commiserations to the runners up - there were some very very close matches. Well played everyone.

Below are some photos of the presentations to some of the winners - there are too many winners to put them all in this newsletter so look out in the next one to see the others.

Congratulations to:-

**Handicap Singles Winner Peter Norris**



**Over 60s Singles Winner Steve Marszal**

and

**President's Cup Winner Steve Marszal**



**Mixed Pairs Winners Mike and Gill Billington**



**The Great Grid Upgrade**

Bramford to Twinstead







## Construction updates

National Grid is upgrading the electricity transmission network between Bramford substation in Suffolk and Twinstead Tee in Essex through the construction of a new overhead line and underground cable route.

We're doing this because the existing network won't be able to reliably transport all the new and low carbon energy we expect to connect to it by the end of the decade.

During the construction phase, we'll keep you informed about ongoing and upcoming works through:

-  **website updates**
-  **writing to those who live near major works**
-  **regular e-newsletters**
-  **keeping your local representatives, including parishes and district county/councillors, informed.**

**Register for our e-newsletter**



Scan the QR code to sign-up to our e-newsletters.

**Find construction updates online**




Scan the QR code to read more about current and upcoming construction activity on our website.


**Contact us**

If you have any questions about our project, you can get in touch by:  
**Email:** [contact@bramford-twinstead.nationalgrid.com](mailto:contact@bramford-twinstead.nationalgrid.com)  
**Phone:** 0808 196 1515 (Lines are open 9am-5:30pm, Monday to Friday)





The Assington Village Hall Charity  
Would like to extend an invitation  
to



Assington Senior Citizens of the age 65 and over  
to attend a

*Festive Christmas Lunch*

With all the trimmings

£28.50 Per Person for 3 Courses

£23.50 Per person for 2 Courses

At

**The Foxes Den**

On

Tuesday 16th December at 1.00pm

All dietary requirements catered for

To book your place on this great event

Put your name and requirement and fee in an envelope and post at

**16 The Street**

By a closing date of Tuesday 9th December

Please email or call David Wiles

[david.wiles@live.co.uk](mailto:david.wiles@live.co.uk)

or

07811108702

Stating name(s) and any dietary requirements

Thank you



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☎ **Sean: 07983 403 289**

✉ **meadowgraceph@gmail.com**

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[www.esgc.co.uk](http://www.esgc.co.uk)

## YOGA WITH LILY

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# PARISH CHURCH NEWS



<https://www.assingtonchurch.org.uk>

*Letter from Sylvia Gaspar,  
Reader,  
at Bures with Assington and  
Little Cornard*



Dear Friends

November – where has the year gone? Hands up everyone who has said that recently. Does the time really go faster? I thought our days and nights were governed by the sun and moon? (It was a glorious Harvest Moon recently, wasn't it?)

We do pack a lot more into our days than the average caveman or hunter-gatherer or even our more recent ancestors of the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century. That seems to be at the heart of the sense of time flying by.


In Psalm 74 v16,17 we read “ Yours (Lord) is the day, yours also the night, you established the moon and the sun”

With God as the world's creator, he instigated the passage of time, night and day. God also said to take a day out each week to rest oneself and remember the God who made you. Whether it is a day of rest, refreshment or 24 hours spread over the week, God seems to have the answer to over tiredness, stress and the speed of time. Do we use our time wisely, healthily? A lady once prayed to God to help her do all she had to do that day. The reply was “I didn't ask you to do half of it in the first place”. A self-inflicted overload?

Yes I know Christmas is just around the corner. In the midst of all the busy-ness, lets try sparing a thought for the God who made the sun and the moon and also sent Jesus to live with us and show us his Godly love.

May your November have peace as well as fireworks,

Best wishes, Sylvia




Stay curious. Try Alpha.

Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone's welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, whether you're new to exploring faith, have unanswered questions, or are simply open-minded about it all, Alpha is for you — you're invited.

Food, a talk, then conversation. You can say anything you like, or nothing at all. It's your Alpha, on your terms.

Alpha in Bures  
Starting late September 2025  
and running through the autumn.  
Alpha is completely free — no charge.

Contact Bill and Tricia Box  
Tricia 07747124592  
Bill 07743801487



## ASSINGTON CHURCH SERVICES in NOVEMBER

**2 November @ 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION**



**9 November @ 10.30am  
REMEMBRANCE  
SUNDAY**  
and the parade along The Street to  
church beforehand

**16 November @10.30am MORNING WORSHIP**

*( 23rd Nov Bures @ 10.30am Morning Worship)  
( 23rd Little Cornard @10.30am Holy Communion)*

**30 November @ Bures @10.30am  
Benefice Communion**

**THE CHURCH IN ASSINGTON IS OPEN  
FOR VISITORS**  
**ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS,**  
**and at other times by arrangement with key holders:**  
**Bronwen Stacey 01787 210354**  
**John Symons 01787 211534**

Vicar: Daniel Whiffin 07309 947039  
email: [vicar@parishchurch.co.uk](mailto:vicar@parishchurch.co.uk)  
Associate Priest :  
Rev Simon White 07572 418555  
Reader: Dr John Symons 211534  
Churchwarden: Bronwen Stacey 210354  
Organists: Bronwen Stacey  
Peter Dakin  
Secretary: Emily Cartledge 07967 724266  
Treasurer: Tony Hufnagel



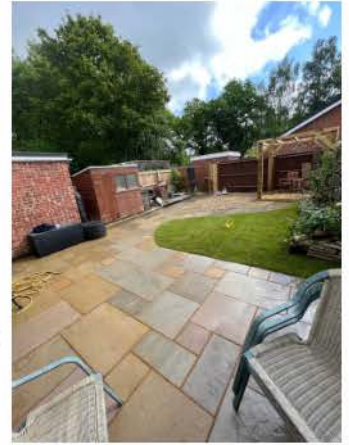
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# FOR THE CLASSIC CAR ENTHUSIASTS

On Saturday, 13th September, as part of the "Ride, Stride and Pedal" charity day, which supports Suffolk's historic churches, Assington was "on the map" for the Classic Cars taking part this year.



## ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bob Cowlin (temperatures) and Bill Milner (rainfall)

HISTORY annual rainfall:

2016	599.5	2019	597	2022	419
2017	571	2020	636	2023	662
2018	559	2021	582.3	2024	620

\*\*\*\*\*

2021	mm	max°C	min°C
AUG	29	24	5
SEP	28.5	27	3
OCT	74.5	18	1
NOV	27	13	-3
DEC	68	12	-6

\*\*\*\*\*

2022	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	7	12	-6.5
FEB	46	13	-4
MAR	29	18	-2
APR	9.5	22	-6
MAY	37	25	0
JUNE	33.5	30	2
JULY	5	36.5	6
AUG	11.5	32	7
SEPT	25	25	1
OCT	63	18	0
NOV	107.5	14	-2
DEC	45	10	-9.5

\*\*\*\*\*

2023	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	41	10	-7
FEB	3	14	-7
MAR	78	15	-6.5
APRIL	65	8	-2
MAY	19	22	1
JUNE	15.5	30.5	6
JULY	72.5	28	8
AUG	65	29	4
SEP	41.5	30.5	5
OCT	137	23	-2
NOV	61.5	11	-7
DEC	63	11	-3

\*\*\*\*\*

2024	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	47	9	-7
FEB	95	9	-1
MAR	38	18	-4
APR	49	18.5	-3
MAY	83.5	25	3
JUNE	17.5	28	2
JULY	84.5	30	4
AUG	17.01	30.5	5
SEP	66	26.5	-0.5
OCT	53.5	19	-2
NOV	41	14	-4
DEC	28	10.5	-2.5

\*\*\*\*\*

2025	mm	max°C	min°C
JAN	39	9	-9
FEB	32	13	-6
MAR	5	18	-7
APR	25	26	-2.5
MAY	14	27	-0.5
JUN	36.5	31	6
JULY	44	33	5
AUG	11.5	30	6
SEP	26.5	24	0

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