

The Mallard

Issue 312 October 2017

Andrew and Sue Launch New Book at Village Hall Event......

THE LAUNCH OF 'LEAF'

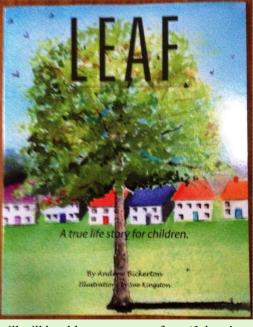
'LEAF' is a children's picture book written by Andrew Bickerton and illustrated by Sue Kingston. It tells the story of the life cycle of a leaf from spring to autumn. The story, though simple, aims to show how the life of an insignificant leaf adds to the sustainability of life on our planet and hopefully helps our understanding of the environment.

The launch takes place at the Village Hall on Wednesday 18th October from 5 to 7 pm. Entrance is free and each book is priced at £6.50 of which £3.00 will be donated to one of the following village organisations selected by the person buying the book: The Biodiversity Project, Massingham Primary School PFA, St Mary's Church, The Coronation Club or the Historical Society.

We will sign books on request and light refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing many of you there but

if you are unable to come on that day you will still be able to get a copy from 'Johore', 9 Abbey Road after the launch date.

Andrew Bickerton





Next 50/50 Sale Thursday 2nd November 7.30pm to 9.30pm at Great Massingham Village Hall *Free Entry. Bar open. Cash only for purchases.*

Have you got something lovely that you no longer wear? Can't be bothered to sell on eBay? Then we can help.

Put it on a hanger, label and price it and bring it to the village hall between 2 & 4pm on 2nd November (or give it to Max Pratt, Mel Whitmore or Sandy Francis before that date).

If it sells you get 50% and the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund gets the other 50%. If it doesn't sell, collect it on the 3rd at 10am or we will donate it to charity. Please come along and support.

Handbags, shoes, boots & jewellery acceptable too.

You are limited to 10 items per person.

Mallard News

This parish magazine is published every month for the residents of Great and Little Massingham with the support of the Great Massingham Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council and Massingham Village Hall Trustees.

www.greatmassingham.net

mallard.editor@btinternet.com

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Deadline for the next issue 20th October

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'Histry Bits'.... Man Trap

I don't know where it came from, or where it is now, but when we were boys there was something truly scary fixed to the wall of one of Owen Cole's outbuildings along Station Road. It was a man trap and it made you shudder just to look at it, imagining the terrible pain its spiked steel jaws would cause when they sprang shut, crushing the bones and flesh of your leg, leaving you to bleed to death.

Man traps were scaled-up versions of the familiar rat traps used on farms. To set one, its metal jaws were forced apart and held down by a finely balanced catch. The slightest pressure on its central trigger plate would release the catch, causing its jaws to slam shut.



Man traps first came into use in the latter half of the eighteenth century, when the poaching of game, as a direct result of the starvation wages paid to agricultural workers, reached epidemic proportions.

Their use was never widespread, acting more as a deterrent than an offensive

weapon and they were finally banned by an Act of Parliament, in May 1827, which 'prohibited the setting of spring guns, man traps and other engines calculated to destroy human life, or inflict grievous bodily harm.'

I'd be delighted to hear where our Massingham man trap has David Miller ended up.

Great Massingham Historical Society

Thank you for your responses about wells and pumps in our village. If you haven't yet responded and wish to, please call Peter James, our Chairman, on 521 706.

A huge thank you to Ann, Margaret, Liz and Peter who came along to our September meeting to talk to us about their life in our village when living at the Bakehouse. It was so interesting and enjoyable.

Next meeting is on October 9th, 7.30pm, at the Village Hall.

Craft and Chat

Village Hall Bar 2pm to 4.30pm

£1.50 includes refreshments. Mondays October 9th and 23rd and November 6th and 20th

DID YOU KNOW?

Historic England have recently confirmed that our War Memorial has been granted Grade II Listing List Entry Number: 1449580

Great News!

SHORT MAT/CARPET BOWLS

Our short mat/carpet bowls season starts in early October and usually runs to mid April. We play at the Village Hall on Wednesday evenings between 7pm and 9.30pm usually playing one match, and occasionally two, per evening. It costs £1 per game to play. In addition, as last season, we will be running practice sessions on Monday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm. All are welcome.

If you are interested in joining us this year, please put your name on the form on the Village Hall noticeboard, in the bar area, or just give me a ring on 01485 520 476.

If you are new to the game you will be paired with a more experienced player who will be able to teach you how to play and also explain the rules.



We have a limited number of spare sets of bowls for newcomers who wish to take part and who knows, if you enjoy it, you might wish to take part in the

outside sessions during the summer months, in the future.

Looking forward to welcoming you. Bob Nash

GREAT MASSINGHAM ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

We are now opening a waiting list for either a plot or a half-plot on the Great Massingham allotment site behind the Fire Station.



Please contact Gillian on 0750 824 2223, or any other committee member.

GRASSROOTS MALAWI Stalls On The Green, Near the Well,

Our stall on the 23rd September raised £75 despite the rain!

Our next stall is 7th October, from 9am.

Cancelled if wet.

The collection box at the Shop had £12.50 in it. Many thanks. Jennie Borley

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VILLAGE HALL REGULAR EVENTS

Keen Fit Wed.1.45 to 2.45pm Yoga with a Chair Tuesday 10am to 11am Bingo Fridays at 7.30pm Auction Sundays

(4th Wed.) 2pm - 4pm Coronation Club Thurs. 10am - 11.30am Baby & Toddler W/Norfolk Radio Sundays 7pm -10pm (1st & 3rd Mon) 2 - 4pm Craft & Chat 2nd Thursday, each month Trefoil Guild 3rd Thursday, each month Film Club 4th Thursday, each month

Quiz Nights Mondays 2 - 4pm. (£2) **Bowls Sessions Historical Society** Youth Club

2nd Monday 7.30pm Tuesdays 6.45- 9.15pm

Yoga With a Chair Tuesdays 10am - 11am.

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!

Monday October 16th 7.30pm at **Massingham Social Club**

Wine tasting, pool tournament, card games, chatting......

It is Ladies' Night at the Social Club. Come and join us.

The first of several events for Club members.

£2 sign in fee for non-members, or join for the year on the night -it is only £10.

West Norfolk Folk Live Shows Village Hall Bar 7-10pm, free entry.

1 October Live music from Eclectric Trio. The Lighters, from High Kelling & Medieval duo, Pearl in the Egg.

Live music from London trio -Tolerance Manoeuvre and Nor

folk trio - Hymn.

29 October Live music from Indie Folk duo Jacqui & Geoff from Cambridge.

OCTOBER OUIZ NIGHT 26th October, 7pm for 7.30pm Village Hall Bar

£1 entry fee plus raffle. Half the proceeds will go to the three top teams and half to the Village Hall Refurbishment.

Hope to see you there! Keith Bowes

If you would like to run a quiz please let me know. The more quizzers the better.

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Mallard News

Gert & Daisy....... Well, here we are agin. Hit the ground runnin' after our holiday. We hed ten luvly days in Ireland and dun nearly 1000 miles! Sid hired the car, Bert did awl the driving and Gert and Daisy sat in the back – Gert with the Sat Nav and Daisy with a map. We hed to keep reminding Bert in Southern Ireland that the road signs were in kilometres not miles otherwise we wunt hev sin nothing. We luvd the Irish people – very friendly, even if they dint harf swear. We started in Dublin by gawn on an open-top bus tour round the city which was really gud and we cud see much more than if we'd hev tried to drive or walk. We went from Dublin ter somewhere and then on ter Belfast where we saw the Titanic exhibition which was very gud. We travelled on westwud, via the Giant's Causeway and a Famine Village, then down ending up in Tipperary – that were a long way! On the way we went ter Ireland's oldest bar – Sean's bar – listened ter some Irish music and drunk a far bit of Guiness. Talking of Guiness we went ter the Guiness Storeroom where we found out how Guiness is made and also that the original Mr Guiness married a young girl called Olivia whose maiden name was Whitmore. Now Bert thinks he's related ter the Guiness family! Sid chose some of thother things we went ter see – mostly castles and old rocks dating back ter the dinosaur age. We spent our last two nights at Farmer Fred's converted cow barn. That wus very noice but Bert hed to do a toilet repair – pity he dint hev his tools with him otherwise he cud hev dun a bit more. Farmer Fred wus luvly and very laid back. Forgot to menshun that, the day after we left Donegal, Hurricane Gert hit and there wus big floods – thank goodness we'd gone. It wus a luvly holiday.

We hear Anthony Robinson is getting on well and hopefully shud be home anytime. Bet Jeanne will be pleased. It's been a long, worrying time for her and their family. Welcome home Ant.

Daisy hev got a new neighbour in dear Mr Tilley's house. Welcome to him and hope he enjoys living in Weasenham Road.

Since we've bin hum Gert and Bert hev bin on two more weekends away. They hed a weekend in Centre Parcs with their youngest, Jemma, and her partner Rob and children. It wus a very active weekend and Gert wus knackered. Still, they hed a gud toime. The following weekend they went down ter Devon ter see an old friend, Mrs Brooks, who used ter live in Massingham. They hev hardly bin hum these last two months!

Timmy and Tommy started school alright and hev settled in. Awl the other kids hev gone back anall thank gudness. Now that'll be a countdown ter Christmas.

We hev noticed there seem to be a lot of houses gawn up fer sale in the village so we guess we'll hev new people coming in. Let's hope they settle in and join in with village activities and appreciate our village fer how beautiful it is already and not try to change it as soon as they git here.

Dew yew keep atroshing, *Gert and Daisy*.

Thought of the month

A clear conscience is the sign of a bad memory.

Norfolk words:- Furriner - Someone not from Norfolk
Tittermatorter - Seesaw.

Great Massingham Baby and Toddler EVERY THURSDAY

From 10 - 11.30am at the Village Hall £1.50 with snack of tea & cake



Fitness Mobility

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21st November,
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It is a real pity that some people are so inconsiderate.....

I would like to apologise on behalf of the inconsiderate person(s) who removed the temporary parking signs along the footpath on Abbey Road (*see left*). They were designed to help prevent inconsiderate drivers from blocking the path and forcing those with walking aids, pushchairs and wheelchairs to move onto the road or

green.

While the signs were in place they did have a positive effect but after their removal we, once more, saw cars parked on the path (see right).

If any person knows the whereabouts of these signs I would appreciate their return to 9, Abbey Road. Perhaps the person who is responsible for their removal might also consider apologising!

Andrew Bickerton



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Tuesdays from 10-11am £5 per session Great Massingham Village Hall Contact Vanessa Brumby on 07786 030 984

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Health Visitor Clinic Make the most of this clinic

Next visit is on

Thursday 26th October

Gt Massingham Village Hall, 11.30 -12.30. (Please note the change in day and times.)
November date - November 23rd



Bring your baby to be weighed & chat with the Community Health Visitor about any concerns. 'Stay & Play' Sessions included.

For more info call:-01362 692 839 (Dereham Children's Centre)

Ducklings Preschool News....... What's Been Happening in September?



Rousseau's Tiger was 'Surprised' at our children's version of tiger faces made from paper plates, lots of orange paint and tissue paper. For the newest 2 year olds, running the tap in the bathroom is just as fascinating as painting 'grass' for the jungle picture using both hands. They are a bright lot as they have worked out that more paint means more water.

Everyone is an elephant's child. Then we bopped to hey hey we're the monkeys, I'm the king of the jungle and the eye of the tiger. No prizes for putting into chronological order. Our circle story time hasn't quite come together yet. The circle tends to have a few parabolic curves as something else attracts attention and the little person makes a bee line for whatever. Hence the transport theme this week - D D D Digger, C C C Car, B B B Bus, T T Train. Toy car wheels make great paint patterns and tracks on paper and using the principle of gravity the same cars go much faster down a ramp, until someone sat on it.

Oh what fun we have at Preschool. Always something to discover!

Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal

Have you got your box yet, there are some available in church? Cover the lid and bottom separately with decorative paper and decide if your gift is for a boy or girl and what age group.

Fill with toys, a cuddly toy, skipping rope, yoyo, ball, trucks and cars, jewellery. Think of school supplies, pens, colouring pencils, writing pads, colouring book, solar calculator. Also some hygiene items, tooth brush and toothpaste, flannel, soap, hair brush, slides. Then perhaps gloves, hats, sunglasses, purse, bags. You won't get all these in one box!



Leaflets are available at the back of the church and in the shop. Think of the needy children around the world and the excitement and pleasure you will give them. All filled boxes to be left at the rear of the church during the first week of November. Thank you. We are also holding a special event on 4th November at St Mary's where you can come along and help fill the shoeboxes. See details on page 13.

Many thanks. Margaret Bowes

Website News Come on all you Budding Writers

Our 'writers blog' has now been set up and we would like anyone who has any literature they want to share, to email it to

greatmassingham@gmail.com Come on all you budding poets, short stories or any tales of our village! Next Parish Council Meeting Dates 16th October and 20th November 7.30 pm at Great Massingham Village Hall

Gaywood Library Forthcoming Events
For further information or to book a place,
where necessary, please contact the library on
01553 768 498. Visit our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/gaywoodlibrary

The Film Club

Thursday October 19th 7pm for 7.30pm, £4 entry. Great Massingham Village Hall

'Their Finest'



A British Film Crew attempts to boost morale during World War II by making a propaganda film after the Blitzkrieg. Starring Gemma Arterton and Bill Nighy.

November Film - 'Another Mother's Son'.



Forewarned is Forearmed!

'The Mafia Wedding', a murder mystery, will take place at the Village Hall on 17th & 18th November. Don't miss it! We have ways of making you enjoy it!

Andrew Bickerton

Management of The Village Hall and Social Club

After many years of Vic managing the Village Hall Social Club, the Trustees are taking the opportunity to provide him with additional help by employing Debbie Lambert as Assistant Manager. It's difficult to appreciate all the time and effort needed to keep the Club and Hall running smoothly and providing vital services for us all. Vic has and will continue to manage the Social Club and Hall for no reward, other than serving the community but he feels now is the time to 'ease up a little' and pass on some of the responsibility.

Debbie has worked for the Social Club since 1996 and is well versed in how it functions so, with guidance from Vic and some training, she will provide a very capable associate to ensure the Hall and Club continues to be well run. She will also be able to reduce some of the other pressures placed on Vic.

The Trustees will clearly be offering their support too and would ask that Social Club Members help to make Debbie's transition to her new role as smooth and successful as possible.

Philip Ward on behalf of The Social Club Community Interest Company.

Village Hall Refurbishment Update

In the past month, the Trustees have completed the submission to Waste Recycling Environmental (WREN) to seek funding for the 'fixtures and fittings' involved with the Village Hall refurbishment plan. The initial submission was asked to be backed up with additional information – which may or may not be a good sign – and this has been provided. The request is being considered as this is being written on 15th September although we are unlikely to hear until mid - November. Part of the additional information required was further evidence of local backing for the proposed work at the Hall and the Trustees should like to take the opportunity to thank all of those who wrote letters of support for the refurbishment. It really brought it home to us how deeply people value the Hall and increased our resolve to make the Hall as good as it can be.

The Old Bowls Shed

The Trustees would like to thank those Bowls Club members who removed the Old Bowls Shed. We realise it must have been a tremendous wrench to see such a fine edifice, that has served the Bowls Club so well for so long, disappear on the back of a trailer. Hopefully, the Club can take solace from the fact that they now have an uninterrupted view across the (newly refurbished) green from the fine new pavilion. Well done lads! *Phil Ward & Trustees*

Were You Troubled by Masstonbury?

On 9th September an organisation calling itself 'The Avenue' at Little Massingham House began what it called '**Masstonbury**' with a Soul and Motown event. This had been given one-off licence by the Borough Council.

However, 'The Avenue' website describes Little Massingham House as a Norfolk Music Venue which indicates that it expects more events to follow in due course. The event itself was very loud. It sounded like I had a Motown band in my garden. My worry is that, following so soon after the Houghton Hall DJ event, our three small villages could become the centre for several loud music festivals from next summer. We are not a field in the middle of nowhere, a London park or a stadium, we are a quiet rural residential area. Once started, such things are hard to stop.

I rang the council, as I am sure did others, and was told that if enough complaints were received in writing these would be given a lot of consideration the next time a licence is requested. You can either visit the King's Lynn Borough website and fill in the form on their 'Noise' page or write to them. A telephone call is not sufficient.

Barry Bowen

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Jo Lovegrove

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Message To All Parishioners

To one could fail to be moved by the floral tributes to Diana, Princess of Wales attached recently to the gates of Sandringham marking the 20th anniversary of her tragic death, nor the quiet dignity of Harry and William as they spoke of their mother and her legacy. The national outpouring of grief seems undiminished by the passing years. The spirit of Diana lives on in her children and grand-children and in the continuing work of the charities she founded or with which she was associated: charities for the homeless, those suffering with HIV/Aids, victims of war and notably the clearing and future banning of landmines, to name but a

few. We honour her memory and her legacy. At the end of this month we celebrate the Christian festivals of All Saints and All Souls, often linked together in popular understanding as **Hallowe'en** – which actually means the day before or 'eve' of the Feast of All Hallows. The word 'hallow' is another word for holy, which can refer to a person - a saint! - or to an object, as in the last Harry Potter book. In the Lord's Prayer we say: "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by your

Together with Remembrance Sunday these two days form the short season of Remembrance-tide. Hallowe'en is a well-embedded date in the calendar, especially with local farmers who grow the magnificent pumpkins for us to create pumpkin lanterns and to find ever more ingenious ways of cooking the delicious orange flesh in soups and pies. (Trick or treat was imported from America.)

This time of year is also known as a 'thin place', where earth and heaven come together more closely than usual, and this may have given rise to some of the myths and legends about 'ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggetty beasties' which abound in the tradition and folk-lore of the British Isles.

On the Feast of All Hallows we remember all Christian saints and martyrs, both wellknown and less known. On the following day, All Souls, we give thanks for the lives of people we have known *personally*: those who gave us life, who nurtured us in faith or reflected for us in some way the love of Jesus Christ: the faithful departed, whom we mourn. St. Paul calls all Christian believers 'saints' and I would agree with him. There will be special services in our group of churches where we will be commemorating our loved ones who have gone before us; and remembering the families and friends of those whose funerals have been conducted during the past year. In recognition of this we light candles: this earthly life is not the end, we have the hope offered to us through

Jesus Christ, the promise of eternal life, by the grace of God. In conclusion, it just remains for me to say: 'Go forth into the world in peace: be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil, support the weak, help the afflicted, honour everyone, love and serve the Lord. Amen.'

With my continuing prayers, Reverend Judith.

WEDDINGS

At St Mary's, Great Massingham. On Saturday 2nd September between

Barrie Yeend and Jacqueline Pearson

name."

At St Andrew's, Little Massingham On Sunday 3rd September between

Hugh Symington and Heidi Oldenshaw Many congratulations to both couples.

Other Church Events in October.....



Messy Church Thursday 19th October from 3.30pm at Gayton Church. (Not the Village Hall)

Celtic Worship on Sunday 22nd October at 3pm, at Gayton Thorpe.

Wednesday Teas continue at Great Massingham Church from 3pm to 4.30pm. For other events see the Benefice website

Church Services

Date	Time	Service	Location
1 st October	9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion Morning Praise Holy Communion	Ashwicken Harpley Grimston Gayton Great Massingham
4 th October	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley
8 th October	10.30 am 4.00 pm	Group Holy Communion The Gap	Grimston Pott Row Methodist
15 th October	9.30 am 10.30 am 10.30 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Praise Family Service Sung Holy Communion	Roydon Little Massingham Gayton Grimston Great Massingham Harpley
18 th October	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Grimston
22 nd October	10.30 am	Holy Communion Family Service Holy Communion	Congham Gayton Great Massingham
29 th October	10.30 am	h Holy Communion Ashwicken Holy Communion Little Massingha 'Celebration of Life' Service Gayton	
1 st November	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Harpley

Benefice Prayer Meeting, Sunday 1st October at Gayton, at 3pm. For more news please visit our benefice website at www.ggmbenefice.uk

CHURCH NEWS

Come and Fill Christmas Shoe Boxes

On Saturday 4th November, from 9.30am, we will once again be wrapping and filling shoe boxes, in St Mary's Church, for the 'Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box' appeal. (See item on page 9)



Last year we had a lovely community spirit with a good number of people coming along, joining in and lending a hand. Coffee, juice and cake will be provided for the workers.

We look forward to seeing you. Please join us.

Advance Notice.....

Christmas Market Saturday 9th December

This year the church will be holding a Christmas Market in the Village Hall. If you have any craft work or something different that you would like to come along and sell or if you know someone who does please ring:-

Anna on 520196. Tables will be £5 and if you have a successful day a voluntary donation would also be very welcome.

More details of times and the crafts and other items on sale will be in next month's Mallard.

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Useful Numbers					
Organisation	Contact	Phone No.			
Allotment Association	Gill Goold	0750 824 2223			
Biodiversity Project	Mike Jackson	520 056			
Borough Council	Tim Tilbrook	01485 601413			
British Legion & Bell Ringing	Denys Winner	520 598			
Bowls Club	Peter Wadham	520 796			
Church Contacts	Revd Judith Pollard or Revd Jane Holmes	01485 601 251 01553 636227			
Community Car Scheme	Office	520 823			
Coronation Club	Jill Whitmore	520 609			
County Council	Stuart Graham Dark	07450 679 355			
Doctors	Massingham Surgery	520 521			
The Film Club	Arthur Allen/Barry Talbot	520628/07818 807 738			
Fishing Warden	Deke Overson	520 143			
Football Club	Barry Talbot (seniors)	520 653			
Guide Trefoil Guild	Shirley Rae	520 259			
Massingham Historical Society	Peter James	521 706			
Tennis and Multi-Sports Club	Arthur Allen	520 628			
Parish Council	Kevin Webb (Clerk) Vic Cross (Chair)	01328 855 046 520 387			
Pre-School	Pip Armitage	07807 185 746			
Police	Non-emergency	101			
School	Ann Beardall	520 362			
Village Hall	Hall & Bar & Vic Cross	520 588/520 387			

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THE GREAT ESCAPE!

When the family are away the chickens do not come home to roost, they stray! When Mike and Domi went away on holiday with their children their chickens seized the opportunity and 'flew the coop'. Rodney manfully, like a good neighbour, caught them and returned them from whence they came. But, said birds had experienced freedom and took wing almost immediately and continued to give Rod the run around.



Eventually, after a number or recaptures, all were penned in; all that is save for one, the leader of the flock, the champion of the chicken run – Gandalf the Houdini who did it again! Gandalf was seen at the rear of the Dabbling Duck, strolling along Abbey Road, wandering around my garden and generally cocking a snoop at everyone. When Jenny held her stalls on the green, Gandalf ambled across and was treated to various tit-bits but did not purchase a single item!

The alarm was raised and the 'A Team' sprang into action. With Rodney in charge and Danny, Alfie and Reggie supporting, a clever pincer movement finally cornered Gandalf who was then reunited with the other chickens and there remained until the family finally returned.

The picture shows Rodney, Danny, Alfie, Reggie and Gandalf. See if you can work out which one is Gandalf and which is Rodney......

Some poetic licence has been used in the above report!

Andrew Bickerton

Dates for your Diary - October					
Date	Event	Time	Place		
1,22,29 Oct	West Norfolk Folk	7 - 10 pm	Village Hall Bar		
7 Oct	Stalls On The Green	From 9am	Near The Well		
9 Oct	Historical Society	7.30 pm	Village Hall		
9,23 Oct	Craft & Chat	2 - 4.30 pm	Village Hall Bar		
16 Oct	Ladies' Night	7.30 pm	Village Hall Social Club		
16 Oct	Parish Council Meeting	7.30 pm	Village Hall		
18 Oct	The Launch of 'Leaf'	5 - 7 pm	Village Hall		
19 Oct	Film Club	7 for 7.30 pm	Village Hall		
26 Oct	Health Clinic	11.30 am - 12.30	Village Hall		
26 Oct	Quiz Night	7 for 7.30 pm	Village Hall Bar		
2 Nov	50/50 Sale	7.30 - 9.30 pm	Village Hall		