



# The Mickfield Messenger

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Contact [Messenger@MickfieldVillage.co.uk](mailto:Messenger@MickfieldVillage.co.uk)

## From the Parish Council

### Mickfield Village Centre—Update

When the recent survey was carried out, a number of people volunteered to assist in any way that they could. The Parish Council has now been in touch with everyone who volunteered to ask whether they were still willing to help.

Six of the fifteen have so far replied. We thank you for this. Some can offer expertise whilst others can only offer an occasional hand. All support is very welcome and we still welcome any offers of help!

More on this at the next Parish Council meeting which is on April 13th at 7:30pm in the Village Centre.

### Parish Councillor Elections

All Parish Councillors are up for re-election on May 7th.

Would you like to join the Council?

You can collect a nomination form from Davina Lynk, or they can be obtained from Mid Suffolk Council Offices at Needham Market.

Please think about standing for election, or nominating someone that you think would do a good job for the village – your contribution will be appreciated.

Should you have any queries/questions, you can also contact the Parish Clerk, Amanda Thompson, on [ttt3@aol.com](mailto:ttt3@aol.com) or Tel: 01379 678130

## Broad- Band

### Mickfield needs better Broadband

As noted in our last newsletter, County Councillor Stringer attended the March Parish Council meeting during which our abysmally slow Broadband speeds, and the lack of an upgrade plan, were discussed.

He has been asked to join a group of county councillors, tasked with addressing the gaps in the roll out of the Suffolk Better Broadband programme. He represents Mickfield as one of the villages not covered by the first phase of the programme and thus still suffering with ridiculously poor Broadband speeds.

To help him build a case for the deployment of realistic Broadband technology to Mickfield, please would all residents carry out a line check, and let him know the broadband speed of different addresses in the village. The speed check is free and can be accessed at;

**[www.speedtest.btwholesale.com](http://www.speedtest.btwholesale.com)**

**Ensure that no-one else is using your connection, select “Y” and then click the “BEGIN TEST” button.**

Copy your “Download Speed” and “Upload Speed” results and email to [andrew.stringer@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.stringer@suffolk.gov.uk) & [messenger@mickfieldvillage.co.uk](mailto:messenger@mickfieldvillage.co.uk) (who will also collate the results) with “Mickfield needs better Broadband” as the subject line of your email! Please include your postcode.

By way of comparison, Wetheringsett is being connected to a fibre Broadband service this month, offering speeds of c300mbps. The typical speeds in Mickfield are c1mbps.

No, that’s not a typing mistake, Wetheringsett residents will shortly enjoy Broadband speeds **300 times faster** than ours.

As well as the speed benefits, their service will also be more resilient and reliable, essential when so much of today’s life is facilitated by on-line services.

Please run the test (it takes a couple of minutes and costs nothing) and email the results to the addresses above. Perhaps then our Councillor will be able to persuade BT to take us seriously.



# more Mickfield Messenger

Messenger@MickfieldVillage.co.uk

## HISTORY of the VILLAGE

### MICKFIELD HISTORY CLUB

The third meeting of a "Mickfield History Club" was held in the Village Centre on March 18th.

The main points noted were;

- The Club did want to create a persistent and tangible record of the history of the Village. Although similar initiatives had been started in the past, they had not produced anything lasting, and so their findings are now lost to us.
- There are a number of a genuinely historic properties in Mickfield around which the history could be developed. For example, the Church, Brook Farm, the Rectory, Shrubbery Farmhouse, Mickfield Hall, Read Hall and others.
- Other properties have disappeared or being re-developed in more recent times, but these still form part of the history of the development of the village, and details of them (photographs, dates, residents, etc) should be captured whilst still remembered.
- Our current long-time residents have a wealth of memories that would greatly enhance the history, adding lots of colour and detail that won't be available in official records. It would be very valuable to "interview" them and capture those memories.
- A central repository is being developed to collate the various information that is being collected, to which all members of the Club will be able to contribute and access.

The next meeting will be held at **1930 on Weds 29th April**, in the Village Centre, when we will continue discussions and develop our action plan. Anyone interested is again very welcome to attend.

Please contact Messenger@Mickfield.co.uk or speak to Davina if you'd like to get involved, or have information that you'd like to contribute.

## St Andrews

Unfortunately, details of the Easter services were only issued last week, which means that most will have taken place before you receive this issue of the Messenger.

However, there are other events confirmed during the year, including;

Benefactors' Day - Sunday 5th July, with a strawberry tea at 4pm, a talk by Roy Tricker at 4.30 (subject; forming the Diocese) and Choral Evensong at 6pm.

This will be the 10th anniversary of the re-opening of the Church.

Evensong takes place at 6pm every Sunday, and the "Pastoral Quire" is keen to welcome new members. Please contact Alan Page on 01473 890350 if you are interested in joining.

## The Fete

A reminder ...

After the success of last year's fete, the intention is to repeat the event. It is likely to be on the same weekend, so book this date in your diaries now ...

**Saturday 13 June 2015**

There will be a meeting of people interested in assisting early in the new year - please do volunteer if you have time or skills to offer or suggestions for attractions that you'd like to see at (or could contribute to) the Fete.

Drop us an email - to either Sally Blackmore (SallyBlackmore@btinternet.com) or to the Messenger.

### Hiring the Village Centre

This centre remains available for hire for events. Please contact Mike Heyhoe with all enquiries.