

Messenger magazine – report for Annual Parish Assembly 2025

The Messenger magazine is published 10 times per year (monthly with combined December/January and July/August issues). It is for the 4 villages of Brightling, Dallington, Mountfield and Netherfield. The print run is approximately 400. It is distributed to people's letter-boxes by a small army of volunteers. The magazine combines "Village pages" - specific news for each of the 4 villages - with more general features of local interest. People occasionally complain about the amount of advertising but (a) advertising pays for the magazine; without it the price paid by subscribers would have to rise by 200%; (b) some people find the adverts very useful for finding local services.

For the year ending 31st March 2025, the magazine is predicted to roughly break even; neither a profit nor a loss to speak of. The magazine has a healthy bank balance and continues to be a going concern.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who helps produce the magazine and also to the distributors who deliver the magazines and collect the subscriptions - often a thankless task!

If the magazine has a weakness, it is that it is over-reliant on a small number of dedicated people to produce and manage the magazine. We would really like to get more people involved. There are many ways in which people can help.

- Send your news and announcements to the appropriate village editor: brightling.messenger@gmail.com, dallington.messenger@gmail.com, mountfield.messenger@gmail.com, or netherfield.messenger@gmail.com
- Write a more general article on matters of local interest: email it to darwell.messenger@gmail.com. We are particularly keen to get articles on local history; also on gardening.
- Volunteer to join the committee. We have a number of vacant roles and it will only require a few hours per month of your time
- If you don't already get the magazine, take out a subscription (£10 for 10 issues). Contact darwell.messenger@gmail.com for details

Andrew Wedmore
Hon. Chair
26 March 2025