

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



Twenty-seven years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

April 2016

Easter Parade ...



... see editorial page



Happy Easter from Elmswell Baby & Toddler Group

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.

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email: elmswellamenities@f2s.com www.elmswellaa.org



Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

If you wish to comment, please do so via the office at Gobblins on the industrial estate behind the Fox or via email at: elmswellamenities@f2s.com.

We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

Forget the lottery!

Especially when, after cracking open the champagne and ordering the new conservatory, you realise that 5 numbers only get you £15.00. There are easier ways to make your fortune. Not quite as easy as having a big celebrity bum, or a photogenic hamster that has, cutely, bonded with a feather duster which he thinks of as his mum. No, not that easy.

Simply this. Consider the way some of our big businesses make money. Not just money as we know it. Lots of money. More money than some whole countries have in their banks. Money enough to pay the Chief Executive £138m for a year's work (It's Google – he's been in the job since October and will, presumably receive a pay rise when he's picked the job up).

Now consider the way we run our essential local day-to-day services. Street lights, road repairs, social services, that sort of thing. We choose representatives from our number by election and they appoint people to do the work. They also have a Chief Executive, although even the notorious Suffolk County Council record breaking £218,592 pa (an embarrassing rush of blood to the head, gone and best forgotten) does not scratch the surface of pay in the private sector.

Your money-making starter for 10 is this. How can we bring 'private sector' thinking into running our services so that the flair, drive and efficiency that keeps shareholders happy can be channelled into the mundane business of emptying our bins and running Children's Services?

We can try the economies of scale that come when adjacent areas combine and do a better job by pooling resources. Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are, justifiably, claiming some success by doing just this. We can raise the bar and consider the 'Devolution' currently on everyone's lips. If this has slipped your attention, don't be concerned, it may soon sink without trace. Under a devolved system, a Mayor for the Eastern Powerhouse would have Boris-like control over Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire.

Or we can try the other, 'Devolution', the trickle-down of power towards the lowest possible level of administration. 'Localism'. So far as much of a disappointment as most expected, but it's there, so, perhaps we can remind Them Upstairs that it's there.

For there is an opportunity around the corner which pits these two approaches against one another. Behind the rather learned-sounding scheme to turn all schools into 'Academies', is the simple truth that there may soon be an opportunity for all schools to earn money for shareholders. Councils would lose their role in day-to-day schooling. Just like the prisons, schools would feature as a 'cost centre' on a balance sheet. One of several on the books of 'educational trusts' and other organisations in the fast growing business of education.

This has already been an option for some time and in the secondary sector more than half of the country's schools have made that choice. By 2022 it is proposed that the choice will be removed from the remainder. All schools, including the 86% of primaries who have, so far, opted to stay with their Council control, will have to become, 'Academised'.

We know that our primary schools are different. They are ours. In our case they are the village school. We know it because we went there. Or our children / grandchildren did /do go there. For good or ill it is ours – we know the governors because they are from our community. We know the successes and the failures. We can celebrate the former and we can help address the latter. By 2020 this may all be lost and we will have no more influence than we have over any other of our local businesses. The 'P' word upon which the Victorians founded the education framework that we know today - 'Philanthropy' - will be replaced by the new 'P' word - Profit.

However, it need not be. With typical Elmswell bounce we could turn this to our advantage. If a registered Educational Trust can bid for our school, we simply need to become a registered Educational Trust. Draw down the multitude of grants and access the funding schemes that such politically motivated initiatives attract, wheedle some office space out of one of our bigger businesses and off

Our school - once upon a time



we go. There are already several enterprises in Elmswell with a turnover far in excess of that of the primary school. If Government wants schooling to be a business, let's make our school our business?



Our cover picture shows...Elmswell Guides planting bulbs some few years back and the display they produce every year...along with the daffodils around the village sign and in various other spots, all planted by volunteers with an eye to the future.



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

April 26th	May 24th
June 21st	July 26th
August 23rd	September 27th

...and don't forget you can view and buy most of the photographs in the magazine - and a whole lot more - by visiting the 'Elmswell Gallery' site www.elmswellgallery.com or ask at the Memorial Library or ring us on 241841.

Your editors:

Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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Reg. Charity No. 304879.

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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

Your Newsletter has been published by the Elmswell Amenities Association (Registered Charity No 304879) on the first Friday of every month since 1986. The advertising administration and the printing are handled professionally – otherwise the whole enterprise is voluntary, including our team of 36 distributors.

The costs are covered by advertising, so, please, support our advertisers, and do mention us if and when you use them.

Last year the magazine made a contribution of £10,936.00 to the Association's funds – all of it directed to improvements in the village.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Two things to thank people for this month – firstly our wonderful Fire Service for their hard work in raising money for the village and their generosity towards our Art Club (and many other clubs and organisations) and secondly to Malcolm Cobbold of Thurston whose father, Ivan, used to live in Warren Lane. Ivan was a keen artist and over the years collected many books on art. Malcolm has kindly donated these books to our club and they will be invaluable for use as reference to our members.

We have a “doggie” theme this month and the pictures are in pastel - by Ted Evans and Denise Lawrence and Bobbie Fiske.

Denise Lawrence
Club Secretary 01359 245207



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month the members enjoyed a Beetle Drive. Our numbers were depleted this month as some were returning from their seaside break in Llandudno.

Our treasurer had good news for the club as the Firemen had kindly awarded the club £500. The secretary has written to thank them for their generous donation.

Derek and Jean kindly organised the Beetle Drive for us. Our thanks to them for an enjoyable afternoon and after the members sharpened their mental arithmetic skills to add up their totals, Carol and Gordon found they were the prize winners.

After refreshments and the raffle the meeting was closed.

Our speaker on April 19th will be Alistair Angus from the Elmswell butchers.

New members are always welcome.

Enquiries to Sylvia on 241 505

HANDBELL CONCERT



The East Anglian Regional Handbell Team are celebrating their 10th Anniversary Season with a concert at the Community Centre, Needham Market on Saturday 7th May at 7pm.

They use some 165 bells ranging from the lightest bell weighing around 200 grams (7oz) to the heaviest at about 8 kg (17lbs 10 oz). Their programme includes music from Les Miserables, and other West End hits as well as music by Bach, Holst and Abba.

The celebrated, “Bones for You” trombone group are also appearing in an evening for which tickets £10 on the door. Family Tickets also available.

*Further Information is available via
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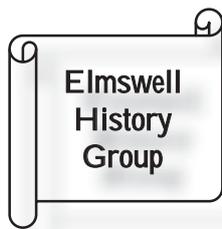
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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

(formerly Elmswell Millennium History Group)

Our speaker at the meeting on 10 March was Chris Miller and his subject was 'The Suffolk Punch Horse and its place in East Anglian history'. Chris is a volunteer at the Hollesley Bay Colony and as well as his love for the Suffolk Punch Horse he is very knowledgeable about the other animals which make up the Suffolk Trinity – Red Poll Cattle and the Suffolk Sheep. These animals and others which are natives of Suffolk are also kept at the Colony. (The Large Black Pig, the Ixworth Chicken, etc.)

He described the Suffolk Punch as a chesnut (correct spelling!) bred for its quiet temperament and its strength as a draught horse. First bred in the 16th century, the first recorded foal was born at Ufford in 1768 on a farm owned by Thomas Crisp. Every Suffolk horse born since then is a descendant of 'Crisp's Horse'.

During the 1st World War the Suffolk Punch was used to pull heavy artillery; those that survived went back to the land or were used to pull brewery wagons, in forestry,

and in all sorts of heavy haulage. Between the wars, when the tractor appeared on the farms, the horses were not needed and disappeared almost completely. They are still on the endangered list as a rare breed.

Chris told us about the Colony at Hollesley – set up as a prison for young offenders, it was to be used in the rehabilitation of these youngsters; they learned how to care for the animals and to use them on the Colony Farm. This went on until fairly recently until government policy changed and the stud was passed on to the care of the Suffolk Punch Trust.

The Colony Farm is open to the public and in it's visitor centre there are various exhibitions about life in the home, at work and on the land, with farm machinery on show as well as the opportunity to see the horses working in the fields.

For more information see their web site: info@suffolkpunchtrust.org

A huge vote of thanks is due to our Elmswell Firefighters for the generous donation of £500; this will go towards the setting up of a web site concerning Elmswell's 1st World War Aerodrome.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 14 April at the Wesley Hall, when our speaker will be Clive Paine. At this, our 16th anniversary meeting, Clive will be speaking about 'Suffolk Men at the Battle of Waterloo'.

For more information about the History Group please go to our web site www.elmswell-history.org.uk or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359 242601.

theW.I.

INSPIRING WOMEN

ELMSWELL W.I.

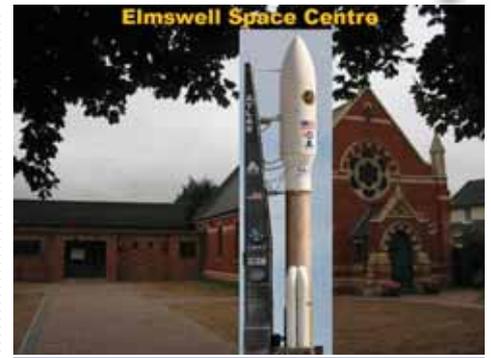
After Rachel had welcomed members, including our visitors, Ava Catton and Jill Newell, Jane and Daisy told everyone about their project, which they hope will inspire members of the W.I. It involves "Twiddle Muffs." Of course, everyone was very intrigued and interested to hear that these items are extremely useful and therapeutic in helping dementia patients occupy their minds. They are basically knitted or crocheted muffs which have added textures and embellishments. People with dementia are often very fidgety and restless and find it soothing to have something in their hands to "fiddle with." Jane and Daisy would like as many members as possible to create one of these muffs, in time for our April craft meeting, during which, we will embellish them. What a worthy project!

The Area Advisor of the Citizens' Advice Bureau, was our speaker for the evening. She told us that the organisation is staffed by volunteers, whose unpaid work saved the equivalent of £325,000 in the Stowmarket branch in 2015. There is no age limit and a paid supervisor is present on each shift. Members of the public ask for advice on a wide range of topics but mainly Welfare Benefits, debt, employment rights, housing, relationships and child maintenance. However, new issues are arising all the time and things are becoming increasingly complicated. There are about three thousand clients a year. We were told about energy-saving ideas and given us lots of useful advice.

Perhaps the most important event of the evening was the award of the Pat Catton bowl, in memory of our much-loved member, who died about one year ago. There were lots of interesting and creative entries and Jill Newell, who kindly judged the competition, found it difficult to decide the winner. However, the cup was finally presented to our new member, Brenda Webb, for her "Bits and Bobs" bird, which she had made out of odds and ends of shiny, gold fabrics and embroidered beautifully. As Jill said, "Pat would have really loved it!" Jill chose Anna's wonderfully-dramatic and colourful painting as second prize because Pat adored bright colours. The third prize was awarded to Olive for her amazing cross-stitch picture of garden birds on a bird table. Pat was extremely fond of birds. Jill had obviously thought carefully about Pat, when she made her choices and everyone agreed that they were very appropriate.

We look forward to our April meeting, when we shall be embellishing our twiddle muffs!

Rosie Collins.
01359 241652



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

**DID YOU MISS IT ??
DID YOU HEAR IT ??**

We really did blast off into space in this Atlas Rocket on Wednesday 2nd March. What a journey!

If you weren't with us, then you really missed a treat. Mind you, we weren't weightless although that might have been quite entertaining. Under the guidance of Derek Langley who is an Ambassador for the STEM project, we watched the Wesley Hall & Chapel get smaller and smaller behind us until we could see the whole of the British Isles and then, earth. We watched our rockets jettisoned as we entered space and from then on we did a guided tour of all the planets and their little moons. Every single one completely different and gradually getting more light years away. In fact, at our furthest point and considering our maturity, we probably wouldn't have made it to the end !! What an amazing afternoon. Far too much to include

in this article. Judging from the questions afterwards some of our ladies had been totally enthralled by the journey. **We recommend this trip to everyone, young and old alike.**

What is STEM ?? This stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. A multi disciplinary project working together in an effort to "grab the imagination" of the young and interest them in the sciences. **It worked for us.** We also enjoyed a wonderful exploration of the constellations in the night sky.

The competition: "The Night Sky in any Medium" was won by Elizabeth Bennington. Second was Maureen Davis and third Mary Chown. After the business matters and refreshments, we all left, slightly on "another planet".

Come and join us - you won't regret it.

Further details from Barbara on 242788 or Maureen on 241033.





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ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB



How lovely to be greeted on arrival at the Gardening Club by tables overflowing with all kinds of interesting plants. These were brought in by Matthew Tanton Brown from 'The Place for Plants', East Bergholt, who was to talk to us on Herbaceous Perennials.

As Matthew pointed out it has been a strange year for plants and many of them were out of synch with the seasons. There were cherry trees in blossom over Christmas and Daphne was still flowering. The hellebores were having a great season as they enjoy the constant cool weather. Matthew also pointed us in the direction of the perennial woodlanders such as *Epimediums* which are good for dry shade. The variety 'Pink Elf' has pink and purple fairy hat flowers which enhance any backdrop. Of course, for wetter areas, one could plant the beautiful *Primula Denticulata* with its white pompom flowers and the iridescent *Pulmonaria (Sissinghurst White)*. No more falling into the shrubbery with these two plants to light your way home! As we traversed the year with the perennials, Matthew did mention there might be one or two drawbacks if long-flowering blue drifts of *Nepeta (Cat Mint)* take your fancy. Apparently their aromatic scent is an aphrodisiac to male cats and those naughty female cats may be seen flattening your drifts of *Nepeta*, albeit with a whiff of Cat Mint Chanel behind their ears.

After Matthew's talk, Gardening Club members enjoyed perusing and buying the unusual plants which were on offer. Brenda reminded us that the Elmswell Open Gardens will be on Sunday, 17th July and is organising a taskforce to make sure that this year is the best ever. Nick told us that the Fire Service had given the Club a very generous donation from their fundraising for which we are most grateful. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 19th April, 7.30pm, at the Blackbourne**, and we will be having a members' plant stand. If you are splitting clumps or have spare plants or bulbs, please bring them along. Our speaker next month is **John Fleet** who will talk to us on '**Current Threats to our Precious Woodland**'. We are a friendly group so if you would like to join us – come along. If you require further information about the Gardening Club please contact **Nick Chamberlin** on 242601.

ELMSWELL OVER 55's



Trip to Llandudno

ELMSWELL CAMERA GROUP

At the last meeting of the Elmswell Camera Group we moved on to the tv/t setting on the top dial of the camera. This is where you set the speed of the shutter and the ISO and the camera sets the aperture.

This setting is ideal for sports or action photography, where you want to freeze the action or movement of the subject. It is also important to turn off your image stabilizer on the lens if you are planning to pan with the subject.

Failure to do this will result in blurred images as the lens tries to stabilize the image. Only leave it on if you have 1 and 2 settings on the lens, in that case put it on the number 2, this will stabilize the image in a Horizontal movement.

You will also need to put your camera on to AI Servo, this is a predictive setting that estimates where the subject will be when the shutter opens. High speed Drive mode is also needed if you are going to photograph moving subjects.

So next time you go a football match, sports event, or walking the dog, give it a try.

If you would like to know more why not come along to one of our meetings. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 5th April at 7-30pm at the Blackbourne in the room at the end of the car park.

Mike 01359 241431

FRIENDS OF THE WOOLPIT HEALTH CENTRE

The main items purchased during the past year are eight adjustable couches for the doctors' consulting rooms for a total sum of £6,872. These make it easier for patients to be examined, particularly those with limited mobility. Other items purchased are a hyfrecator for £1,057 which replaces the one bought by the Friends in 1992. This is used for removing small growths on the skin. Also an additional 24 hour blood pressure monitor for £1,142 has been purchased which will reduce the waiting time for those who need to borrow this equipment.

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the funds during the past year – individuals, organisations and those who have given donations in memory of a friend or relative who has died. There are no administration charges, so every amount, large or small, is used for the benefit of the patients who attend the Woolpit Health Centre and is very much appreciated.

Sue Eburne, Treasurer



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AROUND & ABOUT



ELMSWELL OPEN GARDENS, 17TH JULY 2016

The Elmswell Open Gardens event is returning, and will be held on Sunday 17th July.

This is organised by Elmswell Gardening Club, and is open for anyone in the village to participate. Having had a rest year, we would like this year's event to be extra special, and will again be in July, which will enable us all to see the gardens with the first flush of summer flowering.

We have had excellent support over the years by many people, but we would like to encourage those who have not opened their gardens before, or not for some time, to join us. Why not discuss it with your neighbours and enter together?

The idea of open gardens is to exchange ideas about use of space, materials and plants in the garden to obtain different effects. It is **NOT** a competition in any way, and there is no need to polish leaves and comb the lawn, but merely a leisurely afternoon to enable us to see how differently we use our own garden space. It is at this sort of event that we can find just the right plant or object to fill that awkward corner. It is also a good time to chat about life with fellow villagers whom we have not seen for a while or may not have met before.

We usually have 80-100 visitors from the village and surrounding areas.

If you think you may be interested in opening your own garden, please call Nick on 01359-242601 or Brenda on 242025 to discuss it further.



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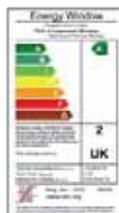
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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

As Spring arrives in the village, so too does a new sense of fun and adventure at Elmswell Library. We are positively bursting with news and events over the coming months.

So let's start with the happy news! Once again Elmswell's incredible firefighters chose to support Elmswell Library Friends with a wonderful £500 cheque handed to manager Emma Yarrow at the presentation evening. Emma took the opportunity to thank the firefighters, but also to speak to the assembled audience about the struggles the library service faces in the future. The money will go towards supporting and hopefully improving the already great service the library provides.

We also had a wonderful surprise through the door this month. The High Sheriff's Awards are aimed at rewarding the volunteers in Suffolk who devote their time and energy to improving the communities where they live and work.



And while ELF didn't make the final of the Organisation of the Year Award – given to the group which best supports people who are involved in projects around citizenship, community safety or crime prevention – we did receive a special certificate in recognition of the positive contribution we have made to the community. It will be proudly displayed in the library.

Our new Family History Group, which runs fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon (next session April 13th), got off to a wonderful start. Four budding genealogists, led by volunteers Julie and Peter, made use of the library's free access to Ancestry and Find My Past to start tracking their family trees. The reaction was fantastic and we have seen several of them back in already continuing the journey. There is a waiting list, but if you are interested in finding out how you can use the library's facilities to track your family's history then either pop in and leave your name and number or give us a ring on 01359 240974.

As you will have seen from our adventures over the past few years, ELF is an exciting group of people dedicated to supporting your local library. Our AGM is being held on Wednesday, April 27th at 6:30pm at the library. If you would like to get involved please get in touch or simply come along and meet us on the night.

And some forward notices for events coming up in May:

Wednesday, May 4th, 7pm – Brave New Reads launch night – Elmswell Library is once again proud to be chosen to host the BNR programme. A series of six books chosen by readers for readers to challenge and make you think. Come along for wine and nibbles, to meet other keen readers and hear all about this year's six chosen books. The evening will be completely free and there will be an 'end of season' event planned for July too.

Friday, May 6th, 7:30pm – Italian Wine and Food evening – the latest in our highly-successful and popular evenings hosted by local wine merchant Bob Stopp. Following on from our Spanish night and Christmas event, Bob will take us on a tour of Italy. Tickets are £12.50 per person available from the library.

Saturday, May 7th – Hedgehog Day – Throughout the morning, our Library and Information Assistant and hedgehog lover Sandra Browne will be marking a week devoted to these beloved creatures. Books, crafts and maybe even a chance to meet a hedgehog. Everyone is welcome and it will be absolutely free. Look out for more details in the library on noticeboards and our Facebook page.

We look forward to seeing you very soon.

Emma Yarrow
Elmswell Library manager
emma.yarrow@suffolklibraries.co.uk
01359 240974

For a list of upcoming events in libraries visit
www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/upcoming-events
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2016 is our year of reading – for more information visit www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/reading

Emma Yarrow



ELMSWHEELIANS 2016

PROGRAMME OF BIKE RIDES

Our first ride of the season will be on
Sunday 24th April
(15 miles approx.).

If you are interested in cycling, and would like to join us on a ride, you will be very welcome.

Further Rides planned for 2016 are :

Sunday 29th May
(15 miles approx.)

Friday 10th June
(evening ride - 12 miles approx.)

Friday 22nd July (evening ride -
Bumblebees Fund Raiser - 15 miles approx.).

Sunday 21st August
(15 miles approx.)

Sunday 25th September (15 miles approx.)

Please note that this year's Fund Raiser will be an evening event on

Friday 22nd July for the Bumblebee Children's Charity, a locally based organisation who work directly with children with learning / movement problems. They are based in Sproughton, rely solely on donations, and do not have the marketing power of the national charities.

The ride will end at "The Fox", with a Grand Draw to round things off.

If anyone can help with Draw Prizes, your support will be greatly appreciated.

All the rides this year will start from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell.

Start times :
Sundays 10.30 a.m ;
Friday evenings 6.30 p.m.

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NEWS FROM *ElmsWild* ELMSWILD



Spring flowers at the Memorial Garden

After what seems like weeks of cold winds, Spring finally seems to have sprung, as our photos of the Memorial Garden show. You plant the bulbs in the autumn, then forget all about them, until a few warm Spring days bring them out in glorious technicolour! They are a welcome splash of colour – well worth a walk round if you're passing that way, or popping into the library. The crocuses are called "Remembrance", so very appropriate for their setting. We've also been planting snowdrops and bluebells 'in the green', so next spring there should be an even more colourful display.

Walk, Talk and Eat Cake at Lukeswood

This year we will be holding an Open Afternoon at Lukeswood on Saturday 21st May, at 2.30. Everyone is welcome to come along, to have a chat and find out about all the activities that take place there, along with the wildlife that is now becoming established. There will be guided tours of the woodland and orchard, as well as an opportunity to see some of the Forest School activities that the children have been enjoying every week – and perhaps even have a go yourself! Refreshments will be served in the pole barn. It's all free, so why not make a note in the diary to come along and join in? More details in the May Newsletter.

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Contact: Revd Peter Goodridge tel: 240512
email: elmswellrector@gmail.com
 web: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

...and now find us on facebook!

Details of our April services are below. Please join us :) Everyone is always welcome!

Sunday 3rd April

9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 10th April

8:00am Holy Communion
 10:30am Morning Service

Sunday 17th April

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 24th April

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10:30am Morning Service with APCM

Sunday 1st May

9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

We hope that you had a nice Mother's Day. Our church was full to bursting on Mother's Day morning. We rejoiced as we baptised a lovely baby boy. We celebrated motherhood and thanked God for the wonderful gift of caring women in our lives. Every lady in the congregation received a beautiful posy of spring flowers. (A special thanks to our tireless flower arrangers who went the extra mile this year.)

The children joyfully waved branches at our Palm Sunday service and (at the time of writing) we look forward to the Easter Weekend. Rejoice!

During March we have had a couple of special events:

We held an evening service called "Open to God - A time of seeking God's fullness and healing". God's wonderful presence was felt.

We completed a brilliant church family walk across field paths to Wetherden on a Sunday afternoon. The weather was fantastic and the route was enjoyed by everyone - even the teenagers and the septuagenarians!

Our small bible study groups are going well. We have a selection of groups, which meet regularly, either through the day or in the evenings. The mums group, "mums the word" have completed a study on the theme of biblical womanhood and are starting a series on Psalms. The Wednesday

and Tuesday evening groups have recently studied an overview of the whole Bible (!) and are now looking at specific sections. If you are interested in joining one of our small bible study groups, I'm sure we have something to suit you, please get in touch!

Please note we have our Annual Parish Council Meeting on Sunday 24th April at 10:30am.

The Friends of St John's Church

The series of Lent Lunches organised by the Friends was very successful. Following our discussion on St Paul's letter to the Philippians, we enjoyed a lunch of soup and bread. In the five weeks we met we raised £150 for the Food Bank in Stowmarket, plus some items of food. On Saturday 9 April we invite you to a piano recital by Alastair Blay, 'A musical journey through time'. Admission is free, but donations for the work of the friends will be gratefully received.

J Folkard tel: 01359 242099

Christians Together in Elmswell

This year it was the turn of the Baptist Church to host the Women's World Day of Prayer. Following a light lunch, we took part in the service which had been prepared by Christian women in Cuba and our prayers were for women around the world who are abused. This is a truly international event, when women in many countries all round the world, sing, pray and enjoy fellowship together.

J Folkard tel: 01359 242099

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

THANK YOU

Over the years we have had many sponsors, both regular and occasional, to whom we have regularly expressed our thanks. The on-going support for the floodlighting of St John's has continued unabated, and is much appreciated. And now - the unexpected - at a presentation evening in the Wesley Hall on Saturday 5th March, the Elmswell Firemen donated a magnificent £500 to the floodlighting fund to remember and thank all the Elmswell Fire-Fighters who have served their village and community so well. A wonderful, generous and unexpected gesture. THANK YOU ALL very much.

SPONSORSHIPS

You are invited to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's to help with the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church. You can choose to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively you can simply make a donation. A night's floodlighting costs £5. During April the lights will be on between 7.30 p.m. and midnight. Please make cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

MARCH 2016 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 11 remembering with love my father, Walter Howe, who left me on 11th March 1972. "Forever in my thoughts". Your loving daughter, Audrey.
- 27 in loving memory of Stan King on Easter Sunday.

APRIL 2016 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 2 "to celebrate the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Duncan and Jill Jacob". With love from all the family. xxx.
- 6 in loving memory of Tony Bendall. Two years have passed since that sad day. "Loved and remembered every day". Love Margery, Neville, Bryan, Malcolm, Philip and all the family.
- 9 remembering Grace Rush, a dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma, on her Birthday.
- 9 Dennis Hopper. In memory of a dearly loved Dad & Grandad. "Always in our thoughts". Sally, Alan and family.
- 14 remembering Carl Finch on the anniversary of his death in 1999.
- 14 in memory of Ray Borrett's Birthday.
- 17 in loving memory of Jane Goodchild. Love, Colin. xx.
- 20 in memory of Jim Baker (1933 - 2009) on his Birthday.
- 21 remembering with love my mother, Frances Howe, who left me on 21st April 1953. "Never to be forgotten". Your loving daughter Audrey.
- 22 in loving memory of Teasel.
- 23 remembering Carl Finch on St. George's Day.
- 30 in memory of David Lakey.
- 30 Ivy & Dennis Hopper. Loving memories of Mum & Dad's Birthdays. Sally, Alan and family.

All bookings and payments please to :-
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Holy Days
Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket - 8.00
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www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

Father David Finegan

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Well, Easter has come and gone along with a quarter of 2016 already! Many people will have been busy preparing their garden to grow colourful flowers and tasty vegetables, others of us just try to stop the garden resembling a jungle! I wonder how many have spent time preparing their souls to produce a harvest? Jesus told a parable about a sower who went out to sow his seed and the results were varied, to say the least. We as a church, in our small, humble way, attempt to sow seeds in peoples hearts in the hope that, at some point in the future, people will accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and seek to serve him as Lord. If you want to find out more about what it means to be a Christian do get in touch by phone or email or just come along on a Sunday morning.

Our activities in the next few weeks are:-

The Ladies Friendship Group meet on Monday April 4th when Ann Hollings will be giving a demonstration of Flower Arranging. All ladies welcome. Phone Margaret on 241541 for further information

Food & Friends on Thursday April 14th at midday – for the older folk – a chance to meet other people and enjoy a nutritious meal at nominal cost. This is run in conjunction with Age UK. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place.

The Deacons will also be meeting prior to a Church and Congregation Meeting on 21st April at which the life and activities of the church can be discussed by all who attend the chapel. There is also a Committee Meeting of Christians Together in Elmswell on 25th April when the activities of Christians in Elmswell is discussed, if you are a Christian and worship outside of the village we'd love to see you. Plans for the Holiday Club in the summer are well underway.

We are grateful to all those who come to lead our worship each week. Our preachers at our 10.30am services in the coming weeks are as follows:-

- April 3rd Kevin Moore (inc Communion)
- April 10th Stephen Spurgeon - All-Age Service
- April 17th Mark Greenwood – Baptist Missionary Society
- April 24th Stephen Spurgeon
- May 1st Paul Kemp (inc Communion)

A warm welcome is extended to all who wish to attend any of the above events.

Visit our website at www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk, email cockant2@btinternet.com or telephone either of the numbers in this text for further info

Tony



This is a huge thank you to our wonderful Elmswell Fire fighters. I have just returned from their annual Charity giving evening and they have presented me with a cheque that I am extremely grateful for and which came as a lovely surprise.

I am a javelin thrower and compete for West Suffolk Athletics Club and for the County. Last season I finished 8th in the UK and first in the East of England. I attended the English Schools competition in Gateshead and competed at the English Championships in Bedford in which I placed 4th, just missing out of the medals; this year I hope to take part in many more national events. All of this costs money: money for equipment, money for competition fees and travel expenses not to mention the price of a new javelin, which I now need! With this unbelievably kind donation from the Fire Service I now have the funds to help me through the this season and beyond. So, once again a huge thank you to the firemen as they have helped a young athlete get one step closer to achieving their goal!

Meg Bartholomew



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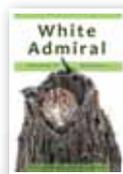
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Spring Biscuits

Ingredients

- 125g butter
- 125g golden caster sugar
- 1tsp vanilla extract
- 175g plain flour
- 1 large egg yolk

To decorate

- 250g ready to roll icing
- Pink and yellow paste food colouring
- 1 egg white, lightly beaten
- Pink sugar sprinkles
- Wooden skewer
- Flower cutters

Method

Put the butter and sugar in a bowl with the vanilla and mix. Add the flour and egg yolk and knead into a ball. Turn out on to a floured surface and knead the dough lightly for a couple of minutes until smooth.

Wrap in cling film and chill for 20 minutes.

Set the oven to gas mark 4 or 180°C.

Roll out the dough between 2 sheets of baking parchment.

Use the cutters to stamp out shapes, then lift away the dough around them.

Carefully lift the biscuits and paper on to a baking sheet and cook for 12-15 minutes until they are firm and pale golden.

Cool for 5 minutes then transfer them to a wire rack to cool completely. (The biscuits will keep undecorated in an airtight container for up to 1 week.)

To decorate the biscuits

Divide the pack of icing into 3. Dip a wooden skewer into the pink paste food colouring and knead into 1 portion of the icing until evenly coloured. Repeat with the yellow food colouring.

Roll out the icing on baking parchment and stamp out flower shapes, using the cutters.

Brush the biscuits lightly with egg white and place the white, yellow and pink icing on top of the biscuit. Also, brush the base of the flower decorations with egg white and secure in the centre of the flowers.

Add sprinkles.

Can you find the following words

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stem vegetables fruit garden plants vines
tree bush grass

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ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A new Planning consultant, Ian Poole, has been engaged by Mid Suffolk to help and advise neighbourhood plan groups across the District.

Having attended the full meeting of the Elmswell Steering Group on 23rd February, Ian agreed to attend a session with some of the members who have been at the forefront of the gathering and analysis of statistical evidence towards shaping the village's Plan.

A session including Ian and 5 Group members, plus Gillian Benjamin of Community Action Suffolk, was held on 17th March with a view to reviewing the information and analysis gathered thus far and taking it forward as written evidence to back up Plan policies.

A range of texts and figures was considered including the Group's census analysis and initial assessment of the effect on primary schooling given 3 scenarios of low, medium and high rates of development in the village.

The aspiration for a relief road over the railway and linking with A14 clearly emerges as a common factor in most of the evidence thus far and firm updates on previous professional estimates are to be sought, including the option of a slightly longer but less intrusive route behind St John's Church.

It was also agreed that trial assessment of various possible development sites should form the basis of the next full group meeting in April which Ian will, once more, attend.



The group is made up of the following members who can all be contacted by email:

Marian Abbott	Marian731@btinternet.com
Philip Blissett	pblissett@btinternet.com
Julie Cole	jules.cole@hotmail.co.uk
Peter Dow	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk
Peter Edmonds	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk
Mary Feeney	feeneymj@btinternet.com
Terry Garner	terryjgarner@btinternet.com
Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com
Brian Hawes	Brian.hawes@live.co.uk
Sarah Mansel	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk
Fred Pallett	fjp@oilgasassociates.com
Shaun Pratt	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com
Ann Richards	ann@richards47.plus.com
Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk
Julia Taber	Juliataber4@icloud.com

SUFFOLK WARM HOMES HEALTHY PEOPLE PROJECT

There is Government money available to help vulnerable Suffolk residents with fully funded first time central heating.

If you, or someone you know is either:

- ✓ receiving Pension credit or other means tested benefit
- ✓ has a household income less than £16,000.00
- ✓ spends more than 10% net household income on fuel
- ✓ has over £1,00.00 in fuel debts.

...and has room heaters only ie no wet central heating system:
contact the parish Clerk, Peter Dow, telephone 244134

clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

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ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

The Start of the Season is almost Here!



The summer season 2016 will start on Saturday 16 April; weather permitting. Last month we heard from the Greenkeeper, Nick Chamberlin, and work has continued since and the Green was looking like this on 22 March, as you can see, in the picture below:

Teams have been established and the fixtures-diary has been set for Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday evenings and the Tuesday afternoon matches in the Stowmarket & District League to cover the new seasons' matches in Mid-Suffolk. So everything is now for the players to be ready.

While the outdoor green has been closed, many players from the Elmswell Club have been playing two or three times a week at the indoor rink in Stowmarket. As many as a dozen of our members play on Tuesday or Thursday mornings in the mid-Suffolk Friendly League and a team from Elmswell play matches on Wednesday afternoons.

Carpet Bowls enthusiasts have also played on Wednesday nights, at the Methodist Church Hall in School Road.

So this way they keep themselves in touch with each other and with practice for the start of the new season on the grass.

Become a Newby!

Who knows; you could become the 'Newby' Trophy holder by the end of the 2016 season! A trophy was created two years ago and so far there have been two winners of the 'Newby Cup' and you could be the third. But you have to become a member to participate in each of the Club Competitions, held on Saturday afternoons throughout the season, to win.

There is still time for anyone to become a new member, as or before the season starts. NO previous experience is required; so all you need to do is speak to the Club's chairman, Linda Abbott on 242224 (or any other member of the Club that

you already know) and you can play as the new season begins. Teaching is available; so why not give Bowls a go!

The Club's Annual Quiz Night

The Club's annual Quiz night on Saturday 19 March, held in the Blackbourne Centre, was a resounding success. Some 65 people attended, comprising 12 teams (with some 'thoughtful' names), close to 100 questions were posed and the standard of answers was very high, as always. Scores were also very high and the top three teams scored in excess of 150 points; with all three separated by only 3 points.

The picture shows the presentation of the prize to the winning team ('The Woolpit Four'); with the only sadness being that they are from Woolpit and not Elmswell! However, a whisper says that at least one might be joining our Club, so it could have been a good result in every sense.



Everyone who enjoyed the evening, thanks to the excellent preparation and presentation of the quiz, by a few people, who worked very hard to provide an excellent evening's entertainment, a very good supper and a well-supported raffle. The Club started the season having made a profit to support its future activities.

Trevor Clarke



ELMSWELL OPEN GOLF COMPETITION

For the last fifteen or more years there has been an annual Elmswell Open held at Stowmarket Golf Club.

The day comprises a competitive round of golf and a meal at the clubhouse where prizes and trophies are awarded.

The competition is open to all golfers who live in Elmswell or have won the competition before.

This years event is to be held on Friday the 23rd of September with tee times around lunchtime and the meal set for 7:30

If enough people are interested a coach can be organised to transport people for the evening.

If you are a member of Stowmarket Golf club then the entry is free and non-members can play for the cost of a round at members rate.

We always encourage people to donate prizes and most years there have been lots of prizes to win no matter how you play on the day.

If you are interested in playing then please contact David Overman on 01359 242796 or email david.overman@btinternet.com



Anyone for Tennis?

Then come and join Woolpit Tennis Club.

The new season starts in early April and everyone is welcome.

We have four hard courts available with club house

Coaching is available for all ages and sessions start in April

Club night every Thursday throughout the season and we are always looking for members to join one of our friendly teams who play in local tennis leagues

Membership provides access to our courts for a year and costs just

£77 adult

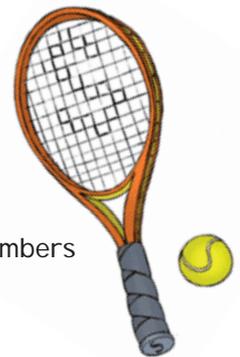
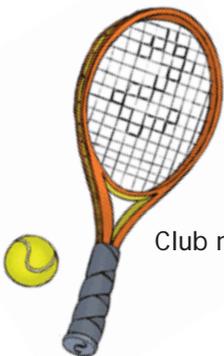
£25 junior

£165 family membership

Which is great value for money and not increased from last year!

If you would like to join the tennis club or need more information, then please come along to the new season open night at the Club on - **Thursday the 14th April from 6:00 to 7:30pm**

Or contact the Membership Secretary on 07808 015408



Have a great day out at

WOOLPIT STEAM

Saturday 4th June 10:00 - 17:00

Sunday 5th June 10:00 - 17:00

at Warren Farm, Wetherden (signposted from A14)

Featuring over a century of agricultural and vehicle development

Admission

Saturday - Adults £5.00, Children £2.00

Sunday - Adults £6.00, Children £2.00



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The Parish Council's Planning Committee recently met to discuss the application by the Methodist Church to convert the chapel on School Road into a house.

Councillors made technical objections related to Policy and Government Guidance together with the more general points reprinted here.

1 The Applicant seeks to suggest that the current users of the Wesley facilities could be seamlessly dovetailed into The Blackbourne. This is a serious misrepresentation resulting from a combination of guesswork and a failure to grasp the dynamics of letting a multi-venue facility. A copy of the current month's letting schedule at Blackbourne (appended) presents an accurate picture of the current user profile. This is at odds with the figures presented by the Applicant whose sources are unknown and inaccurate.

It is immediately evident that evening bookings are not possible for Monday – Thursday with availability limited to the Chamberlayne Hall for Friday. This effectively rules out more than half of all of the current Wesley the bookings.

If daytime bookings were to be moved to the Blackbourne it would immediately remove the flexibility which currently exists whereby a wide range of corporate and other external bookings have an extensive choice of daytime availability. For example, the Mother & Toddler group would fill 2 weekday mornings in each and every week. The Blackbourne derives half of its income from out of village organisations such as Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, The National Trust, the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group, The Suffolk Association of Local Councils etc who book full or part days during the week for conference, seminar or training purposes.

Similarly, commercial organisations such as Driver Hire Ltd, Industrial Water Jetting Services, SA First Aid Training etc are regular hirers on weekdays. Not to be able to offer wide availability because new village groups were having to be accommodated at subsidised letting rates would seriously jeopardise the viability of the Blackbourne facility or require considerable rises in fees to local organisations.

It is ill informed and simplistic to contend that Blackbourne could absorb bookings from the Wesley facility without suffering a serious financial setback. It is equally wrong-headed to assume that space could be found to house all of the displaced groups, at whatever cost.

2 The Applicant suggests that 6 car parking spaces could be provided under this proposal. A site inspection clearly indicates that, if vehicles are to access and leave the site in a forward gear on to the busy School Road, then 4 chevron spaces are the maximum which could be accommodated. The Art Club, as an example, regularly require all of the 14 spaces which can, with care, be currently made available, and this

allowing some overflow into the adjacent car park at The Elmswell Tavern.

It is untenable to suggest that a community facility of any practical worth can function with 4 car parking spaces. Should this application succeed the result would be either the closure of some of the current user groups or an extremely dangerous increase in parking on School Road, already under pressure as part of the advisory HGV route into the village. The experience of Blackbourne is that car parking is key to a successful facility, and particularly if outside hirers are to be attracted bringing valuable income to subsidise community groups. If the Wesley is to succeed when in community ownership, it must seek to increase the parking availability rather than to reduce it by 25% as suggested here.

3 The chapel features in the Wesley lettings diary. It has not been used for 2 of the 3 years since it became available for general public use simply because the owners have denied access, by changing the locks, given that it is in an unsafe condition as a result of the extensive dry rot. Without that constraint, the community of Elmswell might well have begun to prove the benefit of increased letting facilities in this very central location.

4 Both common sense and the emerging Elmswell Neighbourhood Plan indicate the rapid and considerable future growth of Elmswell. To allow this proposal would be to, effectively, close down the Wesley facility at the heart of the village which could, to enormous social benefit and wellbeing, be expanded around the central core of this historic and much cherished community asset.

5 The refusal of Application ref 2396/15 relied upon the fact that the site is registered as an Asset of Community Value for which, 'significant community support has been demonstrated.' That support remains and it extends to the whole site. The developer's argument that the chapel building deserves to be excluded from the registration falls on 3 counts:

First, the chapel has been used for other than purposes of worship. In the late 1940's and early 1950's the room at the rear of the chapel, and, on occasions, the chapel itself, were used as the meeting place for the village Youth Club. This was run by the family owners of FJ Nunn Ltd, themselves Methodists. The Design and Access statement makes mention of the use of the building since its closure as a Place of Worship in October 2012 for 'overflow' activities from the adjacent hall. Written testimony from users of the adjacent hall in

opposing this Application confirms that this use was more common than implied by the Applicant.

Secondly, the Applicant suggests that the building having, they maintain, served exclusively as a Place of Worship in the past is, therefore, beyond the scope of the Localism Act 2011. Sections 88(1) and (2) of that Act validate the listing of a building as having community value if, 'it is realistic to think that there is a time in the next 5 years when there could be non-ancillary use of the building ...that would further (whether or not in the same way as before) the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community.' There is clearly considerable community energy and popular support across a broad spread of current and potential users for the chapel to be converted to suit a wide range of social uses. Plans have, indeed, been drawn up and published for discussion suggesting the possibilities of centring improved facilities in the chapel building. Given the pressure for growth on the village of Elmswell and the constraints on expansion at Blackbourne, to have a second community hub south of the railway line would be of immeasurable value.

Thirdly, the objection is It is out of time. No objection was raise in the statutory 28 day period following proper notification to the owner of the intention to register.



CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (SNT)



To speak to an officer from your local SNT, because they may well be out on patrol, the easiest option is to telephone the number 101, which is the new number across England and Wales for local police forces. You will then be told you are being put through to Suffolk Constabulary's Police HQ, where you can speak to the operator and either ask to be put through to a particular officer, or to Mid Suffolk South Safer Neighbourhood team office.

As an alternative you can email them directly through the following link:

Email:

midsuffsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - MARCH REPORT

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Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly at 7.30pm excepting August. The March meeting took place at The Blackbourne on Monday 21st with 9 of the 10 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel, Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow, and 6 members of the public.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which is made up of the Council Chairman, Cllr Fred Pallett, the Council Vice-chairman, Cllr Brian Hawes and Cllr Steven Harrison, elected by his peers to join them. It seeks to cover some of the more interesting or significant items thought to deserve wider public attention. Included, where appropriate, are matters reported to the meeting by external bodies such as Ward Members or as raised at the meeting by members of the public. Further background and reference to subsequent events are included where relevant.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line at www.elmswell.onesuffolk.net, in the Memorial Library and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes, from the February Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Wesley chapel

The Clerk reported that the Planning application on behalf of the Methodist church seeking to convert the chapel on School Road into a dwelling is before a Planning Committee at Mid Suffolk on 30th March when he and the Chairman will attend to reinforce the community's case for keeping the historic building for continued community use. The Parish Council is intent on purchasing the facilities for the community, including the chapel, once a price has been agreed. Professional agents on both sides will resume discussions to this end once the result of the Planning application is known. The current users of the facility have drawn up a business plan outlining the possibilities for future use and it is hoped that this will be made available as part of the village's fight to save this registered Asset of Community Value.

Recycling centre duty

The latest community group to assume responsibility for stewardship of the Station Road recycling centre, ElmsWild, were thanked for their efforts over the past 3 months. The site, one of the busiest in Mid Suffolk, is kept safe, clean and tidy under this scheme which is open to all village groups and organisations. Councillors agreed to make a grant of £150.00 to the group's funds as a mark of the community's appreciation.

County Council

Cllr Mrs Jane Storey tabled a written report outlining changes due to the new community transport structure. This will provide for a central telephone enquiry service across all services, further details being available via www.suffolkonboard.com/news.

District Council

Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel reinforced the importance of community representation at the forthcoming Planning Committee meeting to discuss the Wesley chapel conversion application and confirmed in her written report an increase of 1.9% increase in the District Council element of this year's Council tax at a weekly extra cost of 6p to the average

household. She had very little information to offer regarding the very swiftly moving Devolution initiative to combine 3 counties into an 'Eastern Powerhouse' which has yet to reach any consultation stage.

Improvements at Blackbourne

The Council's representatives on the Blackbourne Management Association which, as an independent body, manages the facilities at Blackbourne on Council's behalf, reported on several recent improvements including the purchase of a pressure washer which the caretaker can use to clear the walkways around the facility after heavy use by the football clubs when ground conditions are muddy. This is a recent problem given that the paved areas around the halls are much increased following expansion of the hall buildings into an increasingly popular multi-use, multi-letting venue. The Chairman and Vice chairman, along with Cllr Harrison, have agreed to join the BMA Treasurer and Chairman after the end of the financial year to examine the recently completed accounts link between the Association's income and the Council's Blackbourne expenditures and report back to Council. The Association spends none of the letting income on its own account, but pays it over to the Council which is responsible for all outgoings. A regular monthly payment of £1,000.00 is periodically enhanced with one-off transfers and one such, for £5,000.00, was noted by the Meeting.

Casual Vacancy

The Clerk confirmed that, following the resignation of Cllr Mrs Helen Gunby, he had informed the Electoral Services Manager at Mid Suffolk and duly posted the statutory notice confirming a casual vacancy.

Citizens' Advice Bureau outreach

Council agreed to grant £1,000.00 towards the cost of providing a fortnightly visit from the Stowmarket CAB providing free consultations to residents across a wide range of legal, technical, financial and social problems. Cllr David Hawes confirmed that the Elmswell Fire Crew had also made £1,000.00 available. With anticipated further funding from the

Elmswell Amenities Association the scheme is now feasible and the Clerk will continue to liaise with the Blackbourne Management Association and the CAB towards a year's trial. As and when there is a start date it will be widely advertised, including in the Elmswell Newsletter.

Clerical support

The meeting agreed that the rate at which Council buys clerical support for the Clerk should be increased by 89p. per hour as from 1st April to reflect the extra cost burden of the Government's Living Wage legislation. The ceiling on hours worked is to be increased by 8 hours per month in light of the pressures of the increasing calls on the Clerk's office time which include the Neighbourhood Plan, Blackbourne bookings and in anticipation of the need for management input as and when the Wesley facilities are purchased.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 18th April at 7.30pm in The Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council committee meetings and the agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on line at www.elmswell.onesuffolk.net, on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op outside the Post Office.

Enquiries on any or all of the above, or on any Council matter, are invited through the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow at the Parish Clerk's Office, Station Road, Elmswell IP30 9HR. telephone 01359 244134
email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk.

The office is situated on the Station Road Industrial Estate, behind the Fox pub and right next to the railway line above Goblins factory premises. It is open for business on weekdays from 9.00am - 5.30 pm, excepting Bank Holidays. The answerphone is monitored daily.





Your councillors are:

			<u>posts</u>	<u>committees</u>	
				Planning	Complaints
Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Footpath Officer Blackbourne Management Association	✓	✓
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640 07860 395720	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk	Vice chair Planning Committee	✓	✓
Stephen Harrison 1 Manns Court Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BZ	01359 245223	steveandlyn@hotmail.com		✓	
Brian Hawes 36 Pightle Close ELMSWELL IP30 9 EJ	07761 125093	brian.hawes@live.co.uk	Vice chairman of Council		✓
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk		✓	
Fred Pallett Maple House New Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BT	01359 244144 07771 962441	fjp@oilgasassociates.com	Chairman Planning Committee Chairman of Council	✓	✓
Shaun Pratt Wrinlow Spong Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9 DX	07813 302808	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com		✓	✓
Lesley Reed Second Thoughts Church Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DY	01359 241009	lesley@reed.org		✓	✓
Julia Taber 4 School Avenue ELMSWELL IP30 9EH	07921 882206	juliataber4@icloud.com	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Blackbourne Management Association	✓	✓
Chris Wiley 28 Gardener's Walk ELMSWELL IP30 9 ET	07544 762448	chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk	Blackbourne Management Association	✓	

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

FOOTPATH WALK

Our next walk starts, as usual, from Crown Mill, on

SUNDAY 10th APRIL beginning at 11.00 am

Open to all comers & led by Footpath Officer Dick Burch

A couple of hours gentle walking on the footpaths in and around Elmswell

Dogs on leads welcome – stout shoes recommended



NOTICE OF VACANCY IN OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR

PARISH OF ELMSWELL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that a casual vacancy has arisen in the Office of Councillor for the Parish Council.

If by 5 April 2016 a request for an election to fill said vacancy is made in writing to the Returning Officer at Mid Suffolk District Council, 131 High Street, Needham Market, IP6 8DL, by TEN electors for the said Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

If an election is called, it will take place not later than 9 June 2016.

Anyone who would accept co-option should notify the Parish Clerk as soon as possible.

Dated: 14 March 2016

Proper Officer
Mid Suffolk District Council

What's On in Elmswell ?



To be included in our events diary make sure you send separate notification of your announcement.

For a full year's calendar of what's booked at Blackbourne, please go to the Parish Council website at www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

April 2016

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 4 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Flower Arranging with Ann Hollings
- 6 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Chris Parfitt - A pictorial visit to the Scilly Isles
- 7 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 8 April Children's Society coffee morning at Wesley hall 10am - 12.00 noon.
- 9 Piano Concert in St John's Church 7.30pm
- 12 Elmswell WI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Craft evening
- 14 **Elmswell History Group's 16th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Clive Paine: *"Suffolk Men at Waterloo"*
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 15 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 19 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Current Threats to our Precious Woodland
- 19 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Alistair Angus From Farm to Fork Raffle
- 21 Over 55's Club Broadside Boys entertain Open Evening
- 22 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 29 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 29 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

May 2016

- 4 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Annual General Meeting and Resolutions plus a little something extra!
- 9 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - outing to High Hall, Nettlestead meet at chapel at 6.15pm - open to men as well
- 10 Elmswell WI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm AGM
- 12 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Justyn Keeble: *"Elmswell's WW2 Home Guard - much more than Dad's Army!"*
- 12 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 17 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Garden of Gertrude Jekyll and Lutyens
- 17 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing to Thetford Garden Centre
- 20 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 27 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

June 2016

- 1 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Glen Abassi - My Courier Work for Anthony Nolan
- 2 Over 55's Club Brick Lane 60's Show with 3 Course Lunch
- 6 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - meal at Bunbury Arms, Gt. Barton - meet at chapel at 6.30pm - open to men as well

- 9 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Brian Milner: *"Six Hospitals and a Chapel in Medieval Bury St Edmunds"*
- 9 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 10 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 14 Elmswell WI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Suffolk Law Advice Centre Speaker Ann Barber
- 17 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 21 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: The Perennial Mr Potter
- 21 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Talk by Juliet Walker and PAT dog Raffle
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 24 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

July 2016

- 6 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Sheila Jeffrey - My Role as a Marie Curie Nurse
 - 8 **"Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon**
 - 12 Elmswell WI Outing
 - 14 **Elmswell History Group - Elmswell History Group - Annual Outing:** 7pm meet at WW1 Huts Project, Hawstead.
- Details from Stella at 01359-242601, and tickets on sale at May and June's meetings. 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 Over 55's Club Male Voice Choir
 - 15 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
 - 17 Elmswell Open Gardens
 - 19 Gardening Club - Summer Activity
 - 19 Elmswell Exchange Social Club AGM Strawberry Tea Raffle
 - 22 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
 - 28 Over 55's Club Outing The Hut @ Felixstowe
 - 29 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

August 2016

- 3 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Members Meeting - Garden Party at Carol's
- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 Elmswell WI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Members meeting
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Shared Lunch
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

September 2016

- 5 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Memories of a holiday in New Zealand with Flory Heller
- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 7 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Colin Hopper - The World of Optical Illusion
- 8 Elmswell History Group, to be arranged
- 13 Elmswell WI at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Harvest supper
- 16 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

- 20 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Passion for Gardening
- 20 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker T.B.A. Raffle
- 21 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing to Suffolk Punch Horses
- 22 Over 55's club Sing along with Hank
- 23 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 24 Elmswell Toddlers Club Nearly New Sale 11am - 2pm
- 26 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30
- 30 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 30 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

October 2016

- 3 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Modern Day Nursing with Alice Skull
- 5 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Andrea Davy - Let's Build a Gingerbread House
- 11 Elmswell WI we meet at at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Elmswell Butchers Speaker Alistair
- 13 Elmswell History Group, to be arranged
- 14 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 18 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Good Companions
- 18 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Mr. Parfitt Return to Bhutan in the Himalayas Raffle
- 21 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 28 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

November 2016

- 2 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Jason Salisbury The Story of Suffolk Cheeses
- 7 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Preparations for Christmas with members
- 8 Elmswell WI we meet at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Haughley Hoofers
- 10 Elmswell History Group, to be arranged
- 11 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 15 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne AGM + tba
- 15 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Bingo Raffle
- 17 Over 55's Club Stowmarket Concert Band
- 18 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 18/21 Over 55's Eastbourne Turkey & Tinsel book early
- 25 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 25 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

..and at The Wesley Hall each week...
Every Tuesday 9.30am to 12.30pm
Elmswell Art Club
Every Wednesday, 7-9.30pm,
Elmswell Carpet Bowls

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Regular meetings at Blackbourne

Monday
Guides 6.30 - 8.00,

Youth Club 7.00 - 9.00, Zumba 6.00 - 7.00

Tuesday
Beavers 5.15 - 6.30
Slimming World 5.30 & 7.30
WI (2nd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 10.30
Gardening club (3rd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 10.00

Wednesday
Scouts 5.45 - 9.00
Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 - 9.00
Winters Academy - dance classes 4.00 - 6.00

Thursday
Brownies 5.30 - 8.00
Over 55's 7.00 - 10.00 (2nd & 4th monthly)

Friday
Bingo (last Friday monthly) eyes down 7.30
BATS - Badminton & Table Sports - 7.00 - 10.00

Sunday
Sozo Home Church 10.30 - 12.30, usually every 3rd Sunday. All welcome. www.sozohomechurch.com

To make a booking enquiry
Call; 244134

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