

'Like a friend dropping in'



# The Elmswell Newsletter

**SUFFOLK**  
NEWSLETTER  
OF THE YEAR  
2009/2010/2011/2013/2014/2015

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

January 2016



**FIRST  
STEPS  
INTO  
2016**

... see **Editorial page**

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

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**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](mailto:elmswellamenities@f2s.com). We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

# next to christmas-day, the most pleasant annual epoch in existence is the advent of the new year

**There must have been some few occurrences in the past year to which we can look back, with a smile of cheerful recollection, if not with a feeling of heartfelt thankfulness. And we are bound by every rule of justice and equity to give the New Year credit for being a good one, until he proves himself unworthy the confidence we repose in him.**

It is, traditionally, deemed to be too taxing on your editors to expect something other than dog-eared quotations, as above, from Charles Dickens as the year changes. But here he does seem to echo a mood that fits Elmswell at the start of 2016.

He mentions 'some few occurrences' over the past 12 months, and it is tempting to flick through a year's Newsletters as a reminder. Jam packed with its award-winning record of another year in our vibrant, positive community. But space presses and Mr Dickens urges a rather more forward-looking approach.

Here goes. Forgetting resolutions, ignoring wish lists, eschewing crystal balls and almanacs, is there anything that can, with confidence, be predicted for our community over the next 12 months?

1 As you drive into the village from A14 you will be unable to miss the "HGV monitoring facility" which is taking shape on the roundabout. Your Parish Council did argue that the visual impact, against the backdrop of Church Hill and St John's, would be unacceptably harsh, but the Planners accepted the counter argument for need and for there being no other feasible location on this strategically important stretch of European Highway. Our roads will be safer as rogue drivers and operators are detected and dealt with. But our village isn't any prettier.

2 As you drive out of the village down Ashfield Road you will pass the junction which will serve not only the new estate of 190 houses to be started early in the new year by Taylor Wimpey Homes but also to act as the link into the 'aspirational' Relief Road. We must get used to this...the current rate of build, linked to the pace of the market, is about 32 dwellings per year. 6 years then.

3 At the heart of the village yet another potentially dramatic change. Forgetting whatever Greene King may be planning for the Railway Tavern and the very serious consequences that may ensue with regard to car parking on School Road, there is the fate of the Wesley chapel and its adjacent village facilities that is concentrating the minds of the Great and the Good. With good cause. Having successfully fought against and secured refusal for development of the site for housing, the Parish Council has notified Mid Suffolk of its intention to bid to purchase what is registered as an Asset of Community Value. This registration gives the Council, on the community's behalf, 6 months to negotiate a commercially sound deal with the Methodist Church. After that, anyone can bid for it and community use need not figure in their calculations! New applications, appeals and 3 houses plus a converted chapel, then?

And finally...the above are the tip of an iceberg. The pressures for housing development nationwide are widely acknowledged. As is the extraordinary bias towards the South East. As is the inevitable growth of Felixstowe and Cambridge. As is the status of Elmswell in our local planning framework as a 'sustainable community', a 'Key Service Centre'...the main focus for development outside of the towns'.

See where this is going? Situated in the fastest expanding area of the country - slap in the middle of 2 major development hot spots - served by a European Super Highway (their label not ours) - designated as capable of taking development - Elmswell is in the top 10 of all national developers' data bases. Meanwhile changes in Planning law and the current situation regarding local Planning control give a very clear advantage to these developers.

It is not over-dramatising the picture to suggest that the only realistic ray of hope is our Neighbourhood Plan. With an excellent Steering Group drawn from across the community, advised by professionals and backed by a newly elected Parish Council, which has now, thankfully, found its feet, there is every chance that 2016 will not mark the dramatic downturn in our fortunes that might otherwise ensue.

It could go either way, but, by Dickens, 'until he proves himself unworthy (of) the confidence we repose in him,'

let's go for

**A Happy  
New Year.**



## Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

January 26th	February 23rd
March 22nd	April 26th
May 24th	June 21st

...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](http://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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**OUR COVER PICTURE SHOWS...**Dick Burch and his New Year's day walkers assembled for this year's ramble on a 5 mile scenic route to The Fox.

Dick's first regular monthly walk of 2016 starts from the village sign on Crown Mill at 11.00am on Sunday 17th. *Everyone welcome.*

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



At the time of writing I am looking forward to Christmas, but when you read this it will be a New Year. So, I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas festivities and the Art Club members wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year! Why don't some of you "budding" artists come along on a Tuesday morning to the Wesley Centre, have a cup of coffee/tea with us and see how the club runs. The atmosphere is always fun with lots of chatting as well as creativity going on!

The artwork this month is by Barbara Clark (landscape) and Josephine Hale (masks). Barbara does a wonderful job as our Treasurer and Jo is our Chairperson, who is a great inspiration to all of us who are constantly learning as we go along.

Denise Lawrence  
Club Secretary  
01359 245207  
Written in December for January Newsletter



### ELMSWELL LUNCHEON CLUB

The Elmswell Luncheon Club finished off another good year with their ever popular Christmas festivities at The Bull, Woolpit.

On Monday December 7th members enjoyed a lovely spread of traditional seasonal fare provided by hosts Val and Trevor and their team.... and this year the Club was able to enjoy it all at no cost thanks, again, to the generosity of Woolpit-based Lark Technologies. A special 'thank you' card signed by members has been sent to the company.

We also had a surprise visit from 'Father Christmas' who distributed presents from a large and mysterious sack! We then enjoyed an early afternoon cuppa and a slice of Christmas cake kindly provided by Jean Barker.

After the Christmas break the Club starts up again on Monday January 4th so, if you are aged 55+ and want to join a happy and friendly group, then why not make a New Year resolution to 'phone one of our Committee members on 241546 or 240268. We will be delighted to give you full details which includes transport to and from Woolpit.

### ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

Our club is now having a break after a very successful year which concluded with our Christmas Party with "Pat James" which I hope was enjoyed by all.

My thanks go to all the members and especially the committee for their support and help throughout 2015.

Meetings will recommence on February 25th with "Jim Bob Duo" which will be an Open Evening so please come along and join us for a taste of what we do.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

Diann (241002)



### EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

On December 1st we met for our Christmas lunch in the Wesley hall. Once again Mrs. Hubbard and her team cooked and served a delicious lunch to 46 members and guests. Betty Phillips had made the table arrangements which added to the occasion.

After lunch we were entertained by "All Fingers and Thumbs" which we all enjoyed.

Sylvia was thanked for all her hard work during the year and presented with a gift.

After this Father Christmas arrived and delivered presents to everyone which ended the afternoon.

Our next meeting is on February 16th when our speaker will be Nick Chamberlin on the Air Ambulance service.

New members are always welcome

Enquiries to Sylvia on 241 505



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## Elmswell Millennium History Group

Report from **Elmswell Millennium History Group** – for January 2016 Issue of Newsletter

At our meeting of the History Group on 10 December the speaker was Sarah Doig – who spoke about the ‘Tudor Christmas’.

Unfortunately due to family illness Sarah had to perform everything on her own as the two other singers were visiting a family member who was very ill.

Sarah had brought with her some musical instruments from the time of the Tudors, some recordings of music played on them and stories of what would happen at Christmas time.

Sarah sang, played and spoke songs from Shakespeare and Henry VIII, who wrote verse and music. After a very interesting talk, it was time for us to enjoy the seasonal refreshments which had been prepared by members of the History Group.

We now look forward to our first meeting of the New Year on Thursday 14 January at 7.30pm in the Wesley Hall. This will be a ‘Member’s Evening’ and will include a competition ‘Guess the Mystery Historic Object’ (Peter Jones)

Talk and display ‘Role of the Village Recorder’ (Mo Dow)

Talk and slides ‘The Battle of Agincourt’ (David Ellis)

Talk and slides ‘Memories of Ickworth House and Estate’ (Gerald Curtis)

*Please note that our 11 February meeting will take place earlier at 7pm with an*

***Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss (and hopefully approve) our revised Constitution. We would be grateful if as many members as possible could attend this important EGM, as the proposed improvements to our Constitution should help with our Heritage Lottery Fund application for our new WW1 website on Elmswell’s Royal Flying Corps Aerodrome and 75 Squadron, who were based there.***

*The EGM will be followed at 7.30pm by Mark Mitchels’ talk on ‘Oliver Cromwell’ as shown in the programme.*

For more information about the Millennium History Group please go to our website [www.elmswell-history.org.uk](http://www.elmswell-history.org.uk) or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359-242601.



## EXCHANGE CAMERA GROUP

January again, where did 2015 go. I hope you all had a happy Christmas and may I wish you all a peaceful and healthy New Year.

At the time of writing the weather was still mild and I was able to get out with the camera. Anyone lucky enough to get a new one for Christmas, now is the time to join the Camera Group.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday February 2nd 7.30pm at the Blackbourne, in the room at the end of the car park.

A few weeks before Christmas a group of us went into Bury to capture the seasonal lights, although it was a little cold we all enjoyed the evening, and my thanks to

Andrew Hammond, Peter Rutt and Ken Beale for their images.

Any one who would like further information please give me a call on 241431  
Mike





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## CLUBS & SOCIETIES

### ELMSWHEELIANS 2015

A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Christmas Ride on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

On a very grey, unwelcoming and wet morning, 17 Elmswheelians turned out to support this ride with a difference. We were riding to support a charity known as the **Bumblebee Children's Charity**, a locally based organisation who work directly with children with learning / movement problems. They are based in Sproughton, and rely solely on donations, and do not have the marketing power of the national charities.

Within our numbers we were pleased to welcome representatives from the Bumblebees organisation.

Our route took us out of the village via Warren Lane, then on to Borley Green, Shelland Green, Harleston, Quarries Cross, Haughley village, and on to Base Green, Wetherden, where previously unknown supporters, Ben & Karen Harper, very kindly hosted a half-way refreshment stop at their home, appropriately known as "Christmas Barn".

Filled with mulled wine and other seasonal goodies (thanks to Carrol, Cora and Sally), we then made our way back to "The Fox", where, wet but cheerful, we rounded off the ride in style.

Total distance covered was 10 miles.

During the event we organised a collection, and were delighted to be able to present the Bumblebees representative with £140 at the end of the ride.

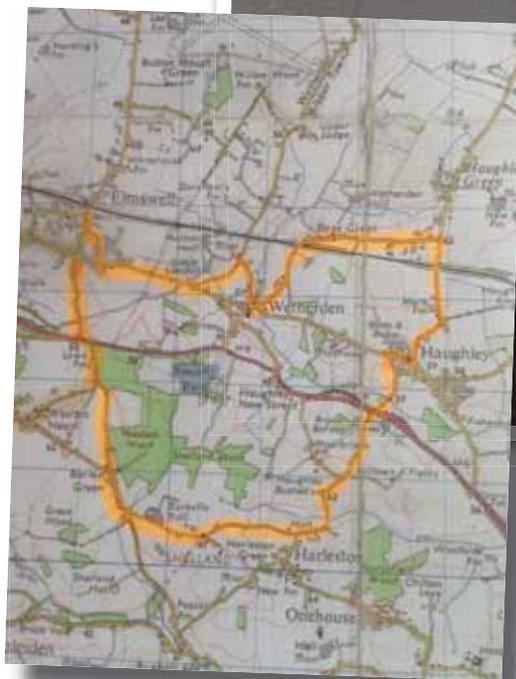
**Well done everyone and THANK YOU ALL** (riders and non-riders).

Thanks also to all of you who have supported our other rides in 2015.

We will be back in the new year, so watch this space for details.

If you enjoy cycling, do join come and join us. We cycle purely for pleasure; at a reasonable pace, but not at speed; there is no membership; just turn up, and join a group of people who enjoy social cycling. You will be very welcome, but must be aged 16+.

**Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell. Tel : 01359 240908**



### FRESCH

FRESCH have had a busy start to the school year with new co-chairs, treasurer and secretary, each of us getting to grips with our responsibilities within the committee. We've also organised the Christmas cards (designed by the children) and of course the Christmas disco!

We would like to say a big thank you to Andrew Doherty at Tesco for all the hot dogs and to Sally Miller at Sainsburys for the £50 voucher. Thanks too to all those who helped on the night - the disco was a big success. The children certainly looked like they had fun dancing to Bertie Bassett's tunes! Father Christmas even took time out of his busy schedule to make an appearance so it was obviously the place to be!

The children should be coming home with clothing recycling bags soon so please could you keep all those unwanted clothes to one side and return them to the school on the 28th of January to help make the school some easy money. Hopefully we'll have lots more fundraising fun in 2016 including cake sales, bingo and the summer fayre so watch this space!

Wishing you all a happy new year

*The FRESCH team*

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# CLUBS & SOCIETIES

## ELMSWELL EXCHANGE WI

### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

This was the first Christmas meeting for a good few years when we actually didn't need to sit in our coats !!! The Wesley Centre was warm and inviting with the tables set in readiness for a scrumptious Christmas Afternoon Tea.



Our guests for the afternoon were Steve and John (All Fingers & Thumbs). Very popular at present in the Elmswell area! We enjoyed a very appropriate mix of music from The Beatles to Beethoven. Needless to say there was a good deal of arm waving and jigging about to "Hey Jude". Feet firmly on the ground, however.



The prizes were presented to the winners of our monthly competition. First was Lesley Clarke (she got the Teapot this year); second Betty Rice (the proud possessor of the cup); joint 3<sup>rd</sup> was Barbara Yeates and Florence Romain who both received gifts. Lesley told us that 15 members had taken part in the monthly competitions and we all thought this was good. More for next year would be even better.

A quick count of member's choices for the Annual Resolutions and a very short run through of the business almost concluded the meeting.

Arrangements were finalised for the W.I. Carol Service at St. Mary's in Bury St. Edmunds on the 7<sup>th</sup> December and

FINALLY - we all took a mystery gift from Santa's sack to take home.

**There is no meeting in January** - we endeavour to stay in the warm, put our feet up with a good book or film. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February when we welcome Celia Stephens, A Lady Racing Driver. Guests are always welcome. For more information contact Barbara on 242788 or Maureen on 241033.

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## AROUND & ABOUT

### MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Happy New Year from everyone at Elmswell Library.

As the year begins we will be officially opening the refurbished library on January 9th with a plaque unveiling ceremony. Councillor Jane Storey and Trevor Sadler, representing the Elmswheeliens, will be doing the honours at 10:30am. Elmswell Library Friends (ELF) has invited all our major donors and fundraisers to the event to say thank you and show off the newly-decorated building, shelving and carpets. They will be joined by members of Suffolk Library's board and management team, Elmswell Parish Council and Amenities Association and hopefully some of our supportive and loyal customers.

There will be coffee and cake in the library afterwards where I am sure we will be discussing what we can do next!

After a break for festivities Baby Bounce and Tot Rock will be restarting again on Friday, January 8th. Hannah will be delighted to welcome any new faces to this popular and growing group, which meets for songs and rhymes at 9:45am on Fridays. It's totally free, lots of fun and a great way to meet other mums and dads.

Our Knit and Natter group, which raises funds for ELF, is meeting again in the library. If you love to knit or crochet, or would like to learn and would like to meet other keen crafters then come along on Tuesdays from 2-4pm. The group is really friendly and encouraging and it's just a £1 donation to a very good cause.

We would like to re-launch Top Time, the weekly group we used to hold for the older generation. So we would like to hear your ideas for what we could do in the library – would people like a club to go to, or to just come and have a cuppa and a chance to browse? What days suit you best – is a week day handier than a weekend? Or are there so many groups in Elmswell that you would like something completely different – a bridge club or a book group or chair yoga?!

Please let us know any of your thoughts and we will try and put a plan together as soon as possible.

And look out for lots of exciting new projects throughout 2016 – for avid readers who enjoy a bit of a challenge we will be hosting the Brave New Reads for the second year and the Summer Reading Challenge will be upon us before we know it – but also look out potentially for Chatterbooks, Reading Hacks and a whole host of other ideas to keep our library busy, books in our hands and smiles on our faces.

*Once more, a very happy New Year to you all.*

On behalf of the ELF can I thank you for all your help in supporting the Christmas Draw 2015.

Without your support the ELF would not have been able to offer the bumper Christmas Draw 2015 it turned out to be. To all those who sponsored, made donations, sold tickets and provided prizes - a very big thank you.

With your help we raised some £700 towards the Appeal fund which will enable the ELF to provide the finishing touches to what has been a challenging yet very successful fund raising campaign.

In addition to the ELF gaining much needed funds we were able to make donations to the Elmswell Football Club, Elmswell Youth Football Club, Walsham-le-Willow Football Club, the Elmswell Scouts and Cubs and the Elmswell Guides and Brownies. These groups sold tickets on behalf of the ELF, and the ELF were more than pleased to donate 50% of all the tickets each group sold back to the group.

The ELF look forward to your continued support in 2016.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year"

*Jimmy Jewell, Chairman, Elmswell Library Friends*

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**NEWS FROM ELMSWILD**



**The Lukeswood Winter Trail**

Here we are in January and everything can look rather drab and colourless – it's that time of year, when all the Christmas lights have been packed away and the days seem dark and cheerless. However, there's still a lot going on in the natural world, and a surprising amount of colour, too. So to cheer everyone up we have devised our Lukeswood Winter Trail – 10 things to find on a winter's walk around our community woodland and orchard.

There will be copies available from the noticeboard at Lukeswood. Pick one up at the start of your walk and see what you can find. Please return the laminated sheets before you leave so that others can use them. Or just take your Newsletter with you!

We hope all our visitors will enjoy doing the trail. There will be another set of challenges in the Spring! Now there's something to look forward to..... In the meantime we would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful new year.

Mary Feeney - [info@elmswild.org.uk](mailto:info@elmswild.org.uk)



**LUKESWOOD WINTER TRAIL**

**How many of these can you find?**

**A bird's nest**

In winter when all the leaves are off the trees it's easier to spot birds' nests amongst the branches – can you see any?

**A colourful bird**

You might spot a winter Robin – easy to see with his bright red chest. Other colourful birds at Lukeswood are Green Woodpecker, Jay, Magpie and Blue Tit. If you're really lucky you may even spot a Bullfinch – very colourful with his dark pink front.

**A flower still in bloom**

When the weather is mild some plants go on flowering even in winter.

**Brightly coloured berries**

Look for hawthorn, holly, dog rose and spindle. Most are red, but the spindle is pink with bright orange seeds peeping out.

**A leaf skeleton**

When leaves fall in the autumn they soon begin to rot down. In some, the capillaries remain when the rest of the leaf has decayed, leaving a beautiful skeleton-like structure.

**A shiny evergreen leaf**

Look for holly – there are a few big hollies in the hedgerows.

**A bird's feather**

Many birds moult at the end of summer, and you can still find some feathers on the ground in winter.

**An interesting stick**

It may be a strange shape or colour, or have some interesting bark.

**Fungi**

If it stays mild and wet in winter, fungi will grow on the ground or on decaying wood. Can you find any brightly coloured ones?

**Footprints in the mud**

These may belong to rabbits, deer, foxes, birds ..... or you!

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## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Contact: Revd Peter Goodridge tel: 240512

email: [elmswellrector@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellrector@gmail.com)

web: [www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk](http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk)

### Sunday 3 January

09.30 All Age Service - Epiphany  
11.00 Morning Prayer with Holy Communion BCP

### Wednesday 6 January

7.30pm Epiphany Evening Service

### Sunday 10 January

08.00am Holy Communion BCP  
10.30am Parish Praise

### Sunday 17 January

10.30am Holy Communion CW

### Sunday 24 January

08.00am Holy Communion BCP  
10.30am Morning Service CW

### Sunday 31 January

08.00am Holy Communion BCP  
10.30am Morning Service CW

and into February 2016....

### Sunday 7 February

09.30am Christingle All Age Service  
11.00am Holy Communion BCP

**St John's Church:** At the time of writing we are still preparing for Christmas and looking forward to our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, our late night Christmas Eve Service and of course Christmas Day. These will all be reported on in the next Newsletter.

Our January and February services will include an Epiphany service and the popular Christingle service. We wish you all a Happy New Year.

## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

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. For the winter months the lights will be on between 5.30 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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### DECEMBER 2015 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

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25 in memory of Eric and Stanley King

### JANUARY 2016 SPONSORSHIPS

- 3 Alf Lufkin. Loving thoughts of a dear Husband and Dad on his Birthday. Love June, Len, Rich, Bev and Sandra. xx.
- 3 loving memories of a special Dad, Grandad and Great-Grandad, on his Birthday. xXx.
- 6 to remember Evelyn Simpson, always in our thoughts. "God Bless".
- 10 in loving memory of a dear friend, Les Pamment.
- 13 in loving memory of my mother Eileen Fraser on her Birthday.
- 16 Dorothy Welin on her Birthday. Love Pat, Gordon, and the Booker family.
- 19 in loving memory of Natasha Smith.
- 22 in loving memory of Rob Dalby on his Birthday, with love from all the family.
- 23 in loving memory of Frank Redit on what would have been his 100th Birthday.
- 23 in loving memory of Ricky Woolnough's Birthday.

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E-mail: [ourlady.stowmarket@btinternet.com](mailto:ourlady.stowmarket@btinternet.com)

### MASS TIMES:

#### Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday)

St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30 9QG - 6.00 pm

#### Sundays

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket IP14 1AW - 8.30 am & 10.15 am

#### Holy Days

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket - 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the front of Our Lady's Church,

in the weekly Newsletter and on the new Parish Website [www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk](http://www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk)

We wish you a happy and peaceful New Year.

Father David Finegan.

## ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

All of our pre - Christmas events went well the ladies were entertained at their nosh and natter evening by singer songwriter Jancis Harvey, our food and friends lunch with turkey and all the trimmings was enjoyed by all our regulars and our children's Christmas party although fewer children than expected attended was an enjoyable event.

At the time of writing this report we still have two major events to look forward to carol singing in the Hanover Court / Pightle Close area and the Christmas Eve Carols by Candlelight service. I trust Tony will report on these in his February report.

I hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas and experienced the peace and goodwill our saviour Jesus Christ brought to our world that first Christmas so long ago, our thoughts must go out to those folk affected by the devastating floods in the north of England and trust that despite their circumstances they experienced the warmth of those around them.

The weather continues to be totally un-seasonal at the moment with the warmest wettest December on record it was good to see the global summit on climate change appear to agree that the world has problem that needs to be addressed and some targets set for tackling the situation.

So on to 2016:-

Our Ladies Friendship Group resume their programme on the 4<sup>th</sup> January with Jenny's surprise evening. This group is open to any ladies seeking companionship and a chat on the first Monday each month, contact Margaret on 241541 for more information.

Food and Friends lunch takes place on 14<sup>th</sup> January open to our older residents, contact Jackie on 245918 to book a place if you have not been before.

Our Services for January will be led by:-

3 <sup>rd</sup> January	The Congregation (Café Service with Communion)
10 <sup>th</sup> January	Stephen Spurgeon (All Age service)
17 <sup>th</sup> January	Carol Richardson
24 <sup>th</sup> January	Stephen Spurgeon
31 <sup>st</sup> January	Sally Soar

As always anyone wishing to join us at any of our meetings and services will be made most welcome contact Tony on 241541 for more information on anything about our Fellowship.

On behalf of everyone at Elmswell Baptist Church I would like to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous 2016

Dave Hollings



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## ELMSWELL W.I. CHRISTMAS PARTY

The hall was decked with lights and garlands and the tables were decorated with candles and sweets and strewn with evergreen foliage from Janet's garden. When people arrived, they were greeted with the aroma of mulled wine. All in all, a very festive atmosphere had been created for our 2015 Christmas Party.

Rachel welcomed everyone, including our visitors and told us how much she had enjoyed the W.I. Carol Service. Then she told us about some future events: Soup and Natter at Park Farm, 11.12 and 8.1.16; Christmas Scrabble at Anna's, 14.12; Craft Morning at Jane's, 18.12 and a Techie Session at Park Farm, 22.1.16.

At last, the party was started with a humorous reading from David, Rachel's husband. Everyone tucked in to a delicious Christmas buffet, provided by the committee: there were many appreciative comments. It was quite a spread! Drinks included Janet's lovely elderflower cordial, red and white wine. During the meal, there were various readings and poems from members of the committee. However, what most people enjoyed best was a jolly good chat with their friends and there was a lot of laughter. As always, Lynette had produced an excellent Christmas raffle.

Rachel thanked the committee for all their hard work and wished everyone a "Happy Christmas!" We all went home feeling that Christmas had well and truly begun... 2015 has certainly been a good year at our W.I.

I wonder what interesting experiences we shall all have in 2016.

Rosie Collins. 01359 241652

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# ELMSWELL AMENITIES ASSOCIATION

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The Elmswell Amenities Association is an Elmswell charity dedicated to, 'promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of sex or sexual orientation or race or political or religious or other opinions by associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to:

- (a) advance the education of the said inhabitants including by the provision of a library; and
- (b) provide facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation for the said inhabitants in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving their conditions of life.'

At the AGM held in the 'gloriously refurbished' Memorial Library, owned by the Association and leased to Suffolk Libraries IPS (formerly to Suffolk County Council), the Management Committee was confirmed for the 2015 / 2016 year. This comprises 9 appointed members from local organisations, being; Bowls Club, Cricket Club, Football Club, Luncheon Club, Parish Council, Parochial Church Council, WI and, just added, Elmswell Library Friends. There are 14 elected members nominated from the community at large.

At a Management Committee meeting following the AGM, officers were elected and various items of business dealt with, as reflected in the Chairman's annual report.

## Chairman's Report to the 2015 AGM

The Association has continued for another year its valuable work at the heart of the community of Elmswell.

The provenance of this work can be seen in one element which continues to grow, prosper and excel – the Elmswell Newsletter which is, for the 6<sup>th</sup> time in the past 7 years, adjudged to be Suffolk's Newsletter of the Year – and another, the Autumn Fayre, which, after some 20 years of annual jamboree in one form or another, will probably not take place in 2016.

The Newsletter clearly deserves its accolade and must, surely, after some 30 years of publication, be one of the most consistently supported of our community volunteer initiatives, touching more individuals and organisations than any other and serving to promote a positive Elmswell way beyond our village. The criticism around the Trustees' decision not to print, "readers' letters", has largely subsided as even staunch advocates of, the 'freedom and transparency' that such

publication apparently offers have seen the sad and damaging results of just such licence on social media where unchecked, uncorroborated often vicious and personal attacks are all too common. The Trustees were right in staunching this sad tide some years ago and to date.

The Autumn Fayre has been similarly successful for, perhaps, just 20 years. It has been manifest in many shapes and sizes and absorbed vast amounts of personal and community energy until the current recent key figures, and notably Peter Edmonds as an heroic Last Man Standing, decided to let it go. It may well be revived in one form or another, but it will always stand testament to the Association's intelligent, active commitment to the broad aims of its charitable objects, 'to provide facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation...with the object of improving...conditions of life.'

Less dramatically, but as important in their way, the Grove Lane facilities continue to be effectively managed by the users, EFC and, increasingly, EYFC and there have been some very basic discussions towards possible improvements through various national grant initiatives. Plus the Memorial Garden, now tended and tidied by the community volunteers of ElmsWild and doing full justice to its memorial role as per the dedication plaque.

On the horizon remains the initiative to retain the Wesley chapel site for community use. The Association offered its considerable experience towards a joint community venture but was, sadly and inexplicably, roundly spurned by the Wesley Hall User Group. The matter is only recently crystallising into something which seems real and do-able. It would seem likely that the Parish Council will be the prime movers. They have always accepted the Association's extremely active and valuable contribution towards community ventures such as this. They are aware over many years of our efforts to salvage Grove Lane, to help establish Lukeswood and to make major contributions to Blackbourne, along with the self-evident commitment which gave the village a state-of-the art Memorial Library, now gloriously refurbished by the thriving user group. To whom congratulations are due and rightly tendered here!

I once again make clear, on the behalf of the Trustees, the Association's willingness to participate in any initiative to save and develop the Wesley site for the community in perpetuity.

Contact the Amenities Association through the Secretary, Jean Barker, on 241135  
Email [elmswellamenities@f2s.com](mailto:elmswellamenities@f2s.com)

## The EAA Trustees for 2015 /16 are:

Linda Abbott, Marian Abbott, Diann Armstrong, David Barker, Jean Barker, Nick Brooks, Dick Burch, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow, Peter Edmonds, Jean Folkard, Terry Garner, John Ibbetson, Tony Marsham, Herbert Mulley, Christine Parkin, Shaun Pratt, Lesley Reed, Ann Richards, Cecil Salmon, Terry Southgate, Sylvia Wilson.



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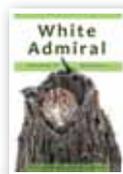
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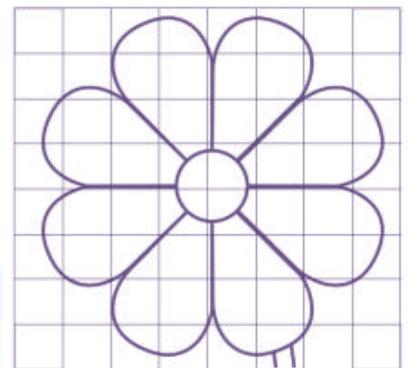
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- SCARF
- COAT
- COLD
- HAT
- WIND
- ICE
- GLOVES
- WINTER
- SNOW

## Craft Ideas Using Paint



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## How to make a hanging rainbow decoration

### You will need:

- Red, orange, yellow, blue and purple paint
- Paper plate
- Cotton wool balls
- Various coloured ribbons
- Glue

### Method:

1. Cut a rainbow shape out of a plain white paper plate
2. Paint equal lines from the top to the bottom of the plate to create a rainbow effect using each paint colour
3. Using your glue attach two rows of cotton wool balls at each end of your rainbow to create cloud like effects
4. Now you need to turn your rainbow around
5. Attach one piece of ribbon to the top of your rainbow to create a way of hanging your craft
6. Then attach your randomly coloured ribbons to the bottom of the rainbow in a line across. This will then give the effect of them hanging from the rainbow when it is turned around
7. Leave your rainbow to dry for at least half an hour before the ribbon and cotton wool is dry
8. Now your rainbow is ready to hang!



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# ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood plan Steering Group remains very aware of the importance that a Plan could have for our village over the next 25 years. Once it has been through the rigorous checking and inspection process which the Government requires, including a formal referendum to ensure that it has community support, it has the power of Planning law. Developers have to conform with the views and wishes of the Elmswell residents who do, after all, have to live with the results.

Accordingly there was a good turnout when, as late as 22nd December the Group met at Blackbourne along with Duncan Merren of Mid Suffolk District Council and Gillian Benjamin, the Neighbourhood Plan mentor from Community Action Suffolk.

Statistics are beginning to emerge in a meaningful format regarding the planned increase in rail freight traffic passing through the village. There will be more and longer trains meaning more and longer queues at the crossing gates. The queues will be inevitably lengthened as more houses are built in the village. The developer has suggested that the 190 houses due to be begun early next year on the Bacon Factory site will generate 'just' 9 extra cars in each queue. The County Highways Authority has accepted this as being less than a 'severe impact'. There is no definition of a 'severe impact', but all informed opinion has it that Elmswell, as a Key Service Centre in the plans and policies of the District Council strategic planners, will have to take many more than this initial 190 new dwellings. The Strategy Group is having to consider the effects of various levels of development up to 2040 so that it can try to have put in place the facilities to handle the population increase. Initial consultation suggests that the village is most concerned about the ability to handle the educational and health provision as well

as the almost universal view that a relief road over the railway bypassing the level crossing is essential. Estimates as to the minimum number of houses that we might have to take and the maximum number needed to fund the necessary infrastructure are, of necessity, extremely tenuous. Informed and professional opinion suggests an absolute minimum of 250, over and above the 190 already due to start. There are then various possible 'break points' and a maximum guesstimate of 1,000. Our housing stock currently stands at about 1750. Possibly, therefore, 60% more houses at a rough estimate of 2.4 people per house. The Neighbourhood Plan is the only mechanism that can give Elmswell now a say in the shape of Elmswell 2040 and beyond. It is the Group's job to find out what we want to say.

The example of Long Stratton on the very busy A140 towards Norwich was quoted. Some years ago they campaigned against a large increase in housing stock which would have bought them a by-pass. The big development was stopped to popular acclaim. No houses, no by-pass. Since then, in dribs & drabs, the houses have come anyway, up to and beyond the level originally proposed. The through-route in the middle of the village is a real bottleneck. Motorists sit in the queue reading the placards in people's gardens. 'Bypass Long Stratton NOW'.

Having consulted with the residents by way of exhibitions, questionnaires and visits to various village groups and clubs, the Steering Group is to consider in the new year further opinion gathering exercises – the first being what tests to apply to sites in the village which are put forward by landowners and developers for building. Should they be near the centre of the village or on the edges? Does the impact on the countryside matter? Should there be a drive to encourage job creation – more building needed!

All very tedious. All extremely important.

## The group is made up of the following members

### who can all be contacted by email:

Marian Abbott	Marian731@btinternet.com
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Julia Taber	Juliataber4@icloud.com

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# ELMSWELL SPORT

## ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

### Regime Change

As Michael indicated in December's column; there is a change in the reporting of Elmswell Bowls Club affairs since our recent AGM, as I have just taken over from him. Michael has regularly entertained us all with his reports and humour for a number of years and I have been encouraged to think that I can follow-on from him with ease. Quite how well this is going to work out is anybody's guess; but here goes at the start of a new year.

First and foremost: A great big thanks for Michael's commitment to keeping the Bowls Club in the Village's mind so well and for so long! Many thanks Michael but do not rest too soon as you might well be asked back if this goes as well as I am beginning to expect this going to work!

Secondly: What a time to take over writing this column? The Green is closed until April 2016; all of the photos have been displayed here in the past twelve months and the real news has been written! So I start by wishing you all the Season's Greetings and goodbye until May!

Well not quite, as I thought that I would at least be able to report on the Club's season-end dinner and the recent AGM; that was until the December magazine arrived! With great alarm I found that Michael had even stolen that bit of thunder from me, so there really is nothing to report! However.....

Now is the time for anyone who is considering joining the Elmswell Bowls Club to start thinking about contacting one of the officers or any other person they know who is a member of the Club, as it will soon be time to start the next season. All are welcome – young and not-so-young – and you will be welcomed, trained and encouraged by a very friendly reception from the current members. April is not far away so start thinking about it NOW.

....and it therefore only remains to echo the members of the Bowls Club's hope that you and your families have had a good celebration over the festive season and a very Happy New Year to you all and all success in 2016.

*Trevor Clarke*



The end of season dinner means prizes!

Photos by Peter Edmonds



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# ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - DECEMBER REPORT

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday monthly, at 7.30pm excepting August. The December meeting was an extraordinary meeting which did not follow the schedule and was called by Chairman Fred Pallett to bring forward urgent business. It took place at The Blackbourne on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> with 10 of the 11 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Members Mrs Sarah Mansel and John Levantis, Suffolk County Council Ward Member Mrs Jane Storey, Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow, and 8 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 the Police and 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.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk), 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 November Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

## Planning applications

Councillors considered 2 applications forwarded from Mid Suffolk District Council, the Planning Authority, for comment.

Application reference 3974 15 for the conversion, extension and alterations at Woodlands, Church Road, to create annexe living accommodation was supported with reservations regarding the likelihood that trimming back of certain of the protected lime trees will be necessary and that this should be undertaken professionally and as agreed with the District Council's Tree Officer. Similarly, root protection should be afforded to the trees in proximity to the works, particularly should there be a need to excavate in order to strengthen or augment the existing footing

The erection of an extension and new access at Orchard Cottage in New Road, reference 4170/15, was supported. Councillors considered that the application complies with local and national Planning policies and offers an improvement in terms of access to and from the site on a difficult corner.

## Wesley chapel

Councillors noted a letter from the Methodist Church Bury St Edmunds Circuit confirming their intention to put the Methodist church, main and Exchange halls and surrounding land on School Road up for sale. The site is registered with Mid Suffolk District Council as an Asset of Community Value. This means that, if an appropriate community organisation confirms that they intend to make a bid to purchase the facility, the owners cannot sell it for a period of 6 months. This is intended to allow the community breathing space to undertake a funding initiative. A sale could be agreed with the community within the 6 months, but, once this period has elapsed, a sale on the open market is permitted. Parish Councils are deemed to be an eligible Community Interest Group and Councillors agreed to register the Council's Expression of Interest in bidding for the purchase. It was also agreed that chartered surveyors Messrs Lacy Scott & Knight should be engaged together with Burnett Barker Solicitors to act in valuing the site and negotiating terms towards establishing a purchase price for consideration by Council.

## Recycling centre duty

The latest community group to assume responsibility for stewardship of the Station Road recycling centre, Elmswell Cricket Club, 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 Club's funds as a mark of the community's appreciation.

## Station flowers

The Elmswell Gardening Club established and continue to maintain the excellent display of flowers at Elmswell Station where they are appreciated by rail travellers and villagers alike. Councillors agreed, by way of a thank you from the village, to make a grant of £150.00 to the Club's funds which are used to pay speakers for their monthly meetings at The Blackbourne.

## Vehicle activated speed sign

The Parish Council has agreed to purchase an electronic 'VAS' unit which flashes a warning to speeding drivers and keeps a record of traffic speeds and volumes. Suffolk County Council has agreed 3 sites where the unit can be safely sited on a rotational basis and their contractor is to install the necessary mounting posts. The Elmswell Community Speed Watch Group have undertaken to monitor and manage the system and Councillors agreed to grant the Group £150.00 to cover the incidental expenses incurred.

## Emergency Planning

Suffolk County Council advises and facilitates the establishment of community groups to lead in matters of emergency planning and community resilience. Councillors agreed that an application should be made to District Cllr John Levantis for £750.00 from his Locality Budget towards the cost of establishing a group in Elmswell.

## Grants to external charities

The Council makes an annual grant to applicants who have made an approach seeking grant aid during the year. It was agreed that £100.00 be granted to each of Age UK Suffolk, Children with Cancer UK, East Anglian Air Ambulance, Headway Suffolk, Home-Start

Mid Suffolk, Magpas, Mid Suffolk Axis & The Suffolk Accident Rescue Service and that the sum of £150.00 be granted to the Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau.

## Precept

The Parish Council's share of the Council Tax levied on all households, the Precept, must be notified to Mid Suffolk, who collect the tax, by 31<sup>st</sup> January. Before determining the level of precept, Councillors must have an eye to previous expenditures and anticipate any increase as well as considering economies and costing specific projects for the 2016 / 2017 financial year which runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April. A training session for Councillors has been arranged to take new Members through the process and towards a proposal to the January Council meeting.

## Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> January 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.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk), 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](mailto: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 Gobblins 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
<b>Dick Burch</b> 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Footpath Officer  Blackbourne Management Association	✓	✓
<b>Peter Edmonds</b> Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk	Vice chair Planning Committee	✓	✓
<b>Helen Gunby</b> The Old Village Pond House, WETHERUP STREET IP14 5QF	07449 445661	helen.gunby79@outlook.com	Elmswell Amenities Association	✓	
<b>Stephen Harrison</b> 1 Manns Court Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BZ	01359 245223	steveandlyn@hotmail.com		✓	
<b>Brian Hawes</b> 36 Pightle Close ELMSWELL IP30 9 EJ	07761 125093	brian.hawes@live.co.uk	Vice chairman of Council		✓
<b>David Hawes</b> Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk		✓	
<b>Fred Pallett</b> Maple House New Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BT	01359 244144	fjp@oilgasassociates.com	Chairman Planning Committee	✓	✓
	07771 962441		Chairman of Council		
<b>Shaun Pratt</b> Wrinlow Spong Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9 DX	07813 302808	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com		✓	✓
<b>Lesley Reed</b> Second Thoughts Church Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DY	01359 241009	lesley@reed.org		✓	✓
<b>Julia Taber</b> 4 School Avenue ELMSWELL IP30 9EH	07921 882206	juliataber4@icloud.com	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	✓	✓
			Blackbourne Management Association		
<b>Chris Wiley</b> 28 Gardener's Walk ELMSWELL IP30 9 ET	07544 762448	chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk	Blackbourne Management Association	✓	

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### 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](mailto:midsuffsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

# 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](http://www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk) - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

## January 2016

- 4 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church at 7.45pm. Another of Jenny's Surprise evenings. All ladies welcome.
- 8 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 12 ElmswellWI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm 'Open meeting'
- 14 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Members' Evening: *Several short talks on members' own researches*
- 15 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 16 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 22 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

## February 2016

- 1 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church at 7.45pm. Games evening. All ladies welcome.
- 3 Elmswell Exchange WI, 2pm in the Wesley Community Centre , Celia Stephens, The Life of a Lady Racing Driver. Competition: A picture of your favourite car.
- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 ElmswellWI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm 'ACWW' Speaker Jenny Hill
- 11 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7pm Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss revised Constitution, then 7.30pm Speaker Mark Mitchels: "Oliver Cromwell"
- 11 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker Nick Chamberlin Air Ambulance Raffle
- 16 Gardening Club - 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Patio Gardening and Gardening in Small Spaces
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 25 Over 55's club Jim Bob Duo

## March 2016

- 4 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 8 ElmswellWI we meet meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Citizens Advice Bureau
- 10 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Chris Miller: *"The Suffolk Punch Horse and its Place in East Anglian History"*
- 10 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 10 Over 55's Club AGM and Bingo
- 11 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 11-15 Over 55's Club Llandudno Holiday
- 15 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: New, Different and Unusual Plants
- 15 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Beetle Drive Raffle
- 18 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 19 Elmswell Toddlers Club Nearly New Sale 11am - 2pm
- 24 Over 55's Club Brian of Note Open evening

## April 2016

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

- 7 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 12 ElmswellWI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Craft evening
- 14 **Elmswell History Group's 16<sup>th</sup> 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

## May 2016

- 10 ElmswellWI 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

## June 2016

- 2 Over 55's Club Brick Lane 60's Show with 3 Course Lunch
- 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 ElmswellWI 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

## July 2016

- 8 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 12 ElmswellWI Outing
- 14 **Elmswell History Group** - Annual Outing: *To be arranged*
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 15 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 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

## August 2016

- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 ElmswellWI 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

- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 13 ElmswellWI 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
- 23 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 24 Elmswell Toddlers Club Nearly New Sale 11am - 2pm
- 30 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

## October 2016

- 11 ElmswellWI we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Elmswell Butchers Speaker Alistair
- 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

## November 2016

- 8 ElmswellWI we meet at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Haughley Hoofers
- 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
- 18 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 25 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

## December 2016

- 6 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Christmas Lunch
- 9 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 13 ElmswellWI at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Xmas Party
- 16 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am

..and at The Wesley Hall each week..

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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

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