

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

July 2016



HER MAJESTY SPEAKS:
I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE
VILLAGERS OF ELMSWELL FOR
CONTRIBUTING TO
MY BIRTHDAY IN SO
MANY WAYS... see page 10



Bowls
Queens
...see page 21

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.

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

If the world has actually ended - either with a whimper or a bang – before you sit down to read this, then don't bother. No, really, no hard feelings, we won't be hurt. After all, there must be more pressing things in a post-Brexit apocalypse scenario which better deserve your attention.

However, if we're all still here, we could constructively work out how this can be. For we had been warned over the past several months that, whichever way we voted on 23rd June, we were doomed, condemned, ruined, lost and consigned to eat for evermore in the Restaurant at the End of the Universe. We digress, but, in the book of the that name, Douglas Adams, of 'Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy' fame, wrote:

"The major problem—one of the major problems, for there are several—one of the many major problems with governing people is that of whom you get to do it; or rather of who manages to get people to let them do it to them.

To summarize: it is a well-known fact that those people who must want to rule people are, ipso facto, those least suited to do it.

To summarize the summary: anyone who is capable of getting themselves made President should on no account be allowed to do the job."

Back to the point:

So what happened? Why are we all still here? And why did it happen? And what's it got to do with a little village newsletter serving a semi-rural Suffolk backwater like Elmswell?

The link is contempt. And helplessness.

- The contempt is on the part of the political class who wander Westminster and their select, sophisticated-for-a-day stomping grounds, earphones firmly clamped, iPhones twittering, blogging and tweeting, clutching cups of coffee and seeking an 'inclusive conversation with stakeholders' – that's us.
- The helplessness is ours. For 'they' have no idea of the resentment that has built up over the years of neglect – neglect of a majority which feels left behind, which sees the 'conversation' as being talked-down to so that another box can be ticked.

Only now they do, at last, have an idea. It has taken a virtual blood bath, but an inkling has begun to trickle through the webchat that the masses, having been given a voice, have used

it to scream. Strip out the 4 areas which didn't join this shouting match - Northern Ireland, Scotland, Gibraltar and, unsurprisingly, London, and the scale of the revolt is the more significant. The 'disappeared' are emerging, blinking, from a fog of anonymity into either the sunny uplands of a brave new world or a horror show of Project Fear proportions. Depends on whether you won or lost.

But, again, what has this to do, at a village newsletter level, with Elmswell?

It has to do with the questions currently posed to our community, the questions likely soon to be asked and the mechanism with which we are allowed to deal with them.

This month's magazine has details of the first of what is likely to be several consultation exercises which form part of speculative suggestions for development on the outskirts of the village. This generally means at the bottom of someone's garden. Possibly yours.

Accepting that those who stood for the Canute Party a couple of years ago, proclaiming, 'we need not take any development if we don't want it', have 'done a Hodgson' and are to be heard no more, then we must be braced for an onslaught of landowners and their professional advocates offering golden opportunities. Not housing estates, but *balanced new neighbourhoods*. Not more population straining our infrastructure to breaking point but, *a new, mixed community townscape with facilities for all to share*. How is the decision to be made as to who builds, what, and where?

One of the more annoying features of the top-down politics that we have grown to know and, apparently, hate, is the disingenuous offers of a community voice. Remember The Localism Act of 2011? Thought not. It introduced Neighbourhood Plans, Neighbourhood Development Orders etc. putting the power in the hands of The People. In the intervening 5 years these powers have been chipped away, have dwindled and been dwarfed by the introduction of new rights and relaxations of rules in favour of development. To the extent that communities such as Stowupland and East Bergholt are

saddled with nightmare developments grafted on to their communities under the banner of, 'the overriding need for development'.

Elmswell is well represented to fight its corner. The Parish Council has settled into a slightly less strident mode after a shaky start a year ago and with a couple of recent changes in personnel that bode well for the testing times ahead. The Neighbourhood Plan group is sifting through the morass of legislation and guidance towards establishing a statutory framework for development in the village. Our Ward Members at both County and District level are wholeheartedly and energetically dedicated to Project Elmswell.

Back to Douglas Adams: "...anyone who is capable of getting themselves made President should on no account be allowed to do the job." If he is right, if our decision makers are inevitably flawed, then doomed it is. He was a writer with very effective humorous intent.

Let's hope he was joking.



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

July 26th	August 23rd
September 27th	October 25th
November 22nd	December 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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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

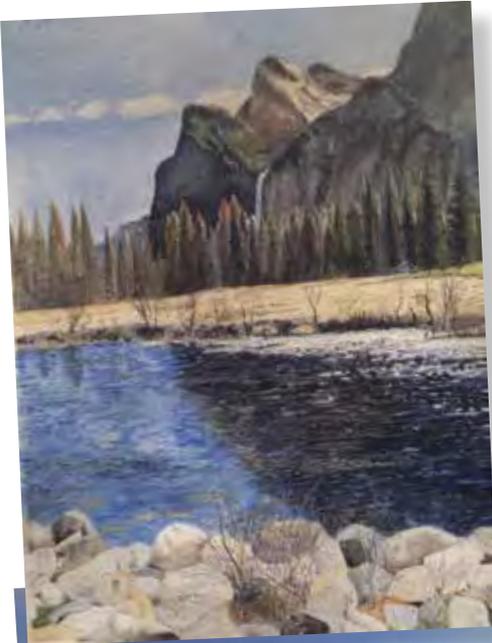
ELMSWELL ART CLUB

July 17th is going to be a busy day for the art club. Firstly we have a sale of pictures to be held at "Southlands", New Road, Elmswell as part of the Open Gardens day, so we hope that plenty of people will see (and buy) some of our work. Secondly on the same day, there is to be a "silent auction" of pictures which have been donated by our members, in the evening (6pm) at 28 Kingsway, Mildenhall, IP28 7HW. This is a garden party with British and Thai food – entry fee £12.50. All proceeds from the auction will be donated to West Suffolk Hospital. The auction has been organised by Ken Beale and it is because of the wonderful treatment he has received at the hospital that he is raising money for the children's ward (children with terminal illness).



Pictures this month are a watercolour a watercolour of Yosemite National Park, US, by John Welford, a watercolour of a beautiful lady by Maureen Bagnall, and a seascape by Linda Stephenson.

Denise
Lawrence
Club
Secretary
01359
245207



ELMSWELL OVER 55's CLUB

Since our trip to Brick Lane we had an enjoyable evening in the company of Alan Jewell who took us through the 50,s & 60,s with numerous songs by well known artists.

Our Strawberry Supper on Thursday June 30th was attended by most of our members who sat down to a splendid supper laid on by Diann and her "Catering Team" (the committee) the evening also featured music by an old favourite "Brian of Note".

NOW TO OUR MEETING on JULY 14th which is a concert by "St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir"; it is expected that the choir will number 50/60 singers.

The concert will take place in the JUBILEE Hall which will allow the choir to perform on stage. It is expected that there will be numerous followers of the choir which draws its members from Suffolk Norfolk & Cambs. PLEASE NOTE that the doors will not open until

7 00pm as to allow the choir to have a practice session. Admission is £6 for visitors & £2 for members payable on the door. It would be great to see the hall full on this occasion.

Programmes will also be available along with raffle tickets on the way in.

There will also be a Bar during the evening.

If members havent booked for the Hut on Thursday July 25th please contact Diann or Myself to place your fish order as soon as possible. We also have some seats available for the Boat Trip which is on August 25th bookings will close on July 7th.



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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

Sylvia welcomed everyone to our June meeting. After the safety notices were given, several members' apologies were received.

Juliet gave the Treasurer's report that we had maintained a healthy balance.

This month we had two speakers. Our first was Juliet Walker our treasurer. She spoke about Loftus William Jones, her maternal grandfather who served at the Battle of Jutland in World War 1. This was a naval battle fought by the British Royal Navy's Grand Fleet under Admiral Sir John Jellicoe against the Imperial German Navy's High Seas Fleet under Admiral Reinhard Scheer. It happened on the 31st of May 1916 in the North Sea, off the mainland of Denmark, the Jutland Peninsula. It was the largest naval battle in that war and the only full-scale clash of battleships. Commander Loftus Jones was serving on the HMS Shark. The ship was hit by a shell and many of the ship's crew were injured. The Commander, who was badly injured himself, took over manning the gun. A torpedo sank the ship and Commander Jones drowned. He was awarded the Victoria Cross. In 1921 his wife and daughter visited Sweden where his

body had been found. In 1991 various family members visited the Commander's grave in Sweden.

Juliet had recently attended a service to commemorate the Commander's death.

The Victoria Cross is now part of Lord Ashcroft's collection at the Imperial War Museum.

Juliet made us all realise the debt we owe to people such as her grandfather who fought so bravely for our freedom.

Our second speaker was Nick Chamberlin. As part of a trip to Canada in 2013, Nick and Stella went on a cruise in Alaska. They chose a small ship with 60 passengers and 30 crew. It was an international passenger list with Nick and Stella the only English passengers. The cruise started at Juneau which was formerly an area associated with the fur trade and then fishing. Tourism is now important to the area. Nick and Stella went on a 45 minute flight in a 10 seater plane which gave them wonderful views of the scenery. The wonderful colours in the ice were evident and also that the ice mass is melting. They also went

in small boats to get closer to the ice. The sheer scale of the mountains and ice was evident in comparison to the small boats. Another part of the cruise, they visited tropical rainforests which were accessed by boardwalks.

Various wildlife was seen- sea eagles, seals on rocks, brown and black bears and a humpback whale which was coming up for air.

Nick's presentation made us all feel we had experienced the Alaskan cruise.

A vote of thanks was given to both of our speakers.

After refreshments and the raffle, the meeting continued.

On Wednesday September 21st a trip is planned to visit the Suffolk Punch Trust at a cost of £25. Money to be collected at the August meeting.

Important note - our July meeting has been cancelled. Our next meeting will be on August 16th which will be our AGM and strawberry tea. Location to be arranged.

New members are always welcome.

Enquiries to Sylvia on 241 505

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP (formerly Elmswell Millennium History Group)

On 9 June we had an early start at 7pm, with the Annual General Meeting preceding a talk by Brian Milner. Our new Committee is as follows:

Chairman.....Tony Chaplin
Vice-Chairmen ... Graham Mack & Peter McGee
SecretaryStella Chamberlain
Treasurer.....Graham Newman
Membership Secretary..... Graham Mack
Meetings Secretaries..Mike Farrow & Dot Dixon
Newsletter & Refreshments..... Jean Folkard
Committee Member.....Juliet Walker

Brian Milner's talk was about the six medieval hospitals and a chapel in Bury St Edmunds.

The Hospitals in Bury were positioned outside the town gates, but on the principal routes into the town. The abbot had almost total control of the hospitals and under his jurisdiction the monks who worked in the hospital also led the liturgical life of the infirmary.

The hospitals relied on endowments and chantries. By living a Christian life and making donations to hospitals, the time the donor would spend in Purgatory could be reduced.

Bury had a large number of hospitals for a town of its size - the abbey, with its Shrine of St Edmund and the relics of other saints, attracted large numbers of pilgrims.

The Hospital of St Saviour - remnants of the hospital can be seen on Fornham Road, near the railway bridge. This hospital was funded by many endowments, tithes, donations, etc and was popular with the poor.

The Chapel of St Thomas - was on the opposite side of the road to St Saviour's hospital and was built on the site of an earlier building. Accounts for the building and maintenance of the chapel still exist, for example, the mason, John Burdeaux received 1s 4d and his meals for whitewashing the walls and ceilings.

The Hospital of St Peter - was built on the main route from Cambridge to Bury, at the western end of Out Risbygate. Founded by Abbot Anselm this was possibly the first hospital to be built outside the abbey precinct. Mainly housing sick priests, it could also care for townspeople if there was room. The hospital closed in 1548 and the Chantry Certificate stating this still exists.

The Hospital of St John was founded in Southgate Street between 1248 and 1256, to house able-bodied male and female beggars - more of a hostel than a hospital.

The Hospital of St Petronilla - stood outside the south gate, on what is now known as Southgate Green. This hospital was established for female sufferers of leprosy, An engraving published in 1781 shows the hospital with a medieval gable end window in the Decorated style. This window was later inserted into the remains of St Nicholas' hospital.

The Hospital of St Nicholas - the window from St Petronilla's can be seen at the junction of Eastgate Street and Hollow Road. By 1791 it appears on a map as Chapel Farm; the building is now a private residence called St Nicholas.

The Hospital of St Stephen - is thought to have been in Eastgate Street, near Unicorn Place. Few records of this building still exist.

At the dissolution of the monasteries all of these hospitals ceased to function, but the name of one lives on in the present St Nicholas Hospice, where care and solace is given to many individuals and families.

This was such an interesting talk, the result of many hours of research. We now look forward to our outing in July to The Great War Huts project and will meet again in September.

Following Justyn Keeble's talk to the group in May about the Home Guard, he tells us he has much more information on Elmswell's Home Guard which can be found on his website - www.3rdsuffolkhomeguard.org.uk - if you are without internet access, please visit Elmswell Library where the friendly and helpful staff will assist you in accessing this information (one hour's **free internet access per day**).

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.



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AMAZING "FLYING" GRANDMA VISITS ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

Glenn Abbassi (pictured) has so far undertaken 336 lifesaving flights across the world on behalf of the Anthony Nolan Trust. The specially adapted container she holds protects, for a maximum of 72 hours, the donor bone marrow stem cells for transplantation at the hospital of her destination in this country. Her role is entirely voluntary but the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Register pay her expenses and organise all her flights and collection arrangements. Nowadays, the majority of her flights are to Europe and Germany. Unlike us, Germany have a system which includes everyone on the Register unless they request to opt out. Very few people do. This means that patients do not die whilst waiting for a compatible donor unlike the situation in this country. Maybe we could learn something from this. We learned Glenn's reasons for taking up this role, and a little of her personal story. She obviously had many funny stories to tell about her travels in addition to the tricky episodes. Ask Glenn where she has travelled and she will tell you it is all four corners of the world and everywhere in between, including a Christmas spent in Beijing!! A very gentle, nice lady who should be an inspiration to us all.



Next month (Wed. 6th July) our speaker will be Sheila Jeffrey who is a Marie Curie Nurse. We will find out more about the organisation and what Sheila's role is within it.

PLEASE NOTE: We will be meeting in The Olympic Room at The Blackbourne Centre beginning at 2 p.m. We will be based here until the situation is eventually resolved regarding the Wesley Hall.

Come and join us, either as a guest, or a member. You will be made most welcome.

For further details contact Barbara on 242788 or Maureen on 241033.



ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

Our last gardening club meeting before the summer festivities found us all eagerly awaiting a talk by Bryan Thurlow, and we were not disappointed. Bryan had brought along with him Mr. Potter, who was a dead ringer for 'Corporal Jones' from Dad's Army. Apparently Mr. Potter was born in 1900 into an agricultural family. As a child he had seen a Dutch knot garden embroidered on a firescreen. From then on he was fascinated by Dutch knot gardens with all their complicated curlicues. Also the local mansion had an overgrown knot garden which as a boy he longed to bring back to life. His opportunity came when he won first prize at the local flower show for his miniature Dutch knot garden on a plate. The intricate box hedges were made out of moss gathered from behind the privy at the bottom of his garden. The lady owners of the local mansion were so impressed with his design, they offered him a job as under-gardener. He learned all he could about maintaining a large country house garden with parterres, long borders and a thriving vegetable and fruit garden. Who would have thought that a rabbit's tail on a stick was ideal for pollinating apricots? Eventually Mr. Potter became head gardener. Unfortunately, the first and second world wars brought drastic changes, and sadly in the 1950s, the estate was sold off to property developers. Luckily Mr. Potter, after his faithful service, was given a little cottage situated in the walled knot garden at a peppercorn rent for the rest of his life. As Mr. Potter exited the hall, Bryan Thurlow returned to great applause

for his enactment of the perennial Mr. Potter. Bryan had also brought with him a selection of plants which he had used in his story-telling for us to buy. He even had some Mexican Fleabane (*Erigeron*) a daisy used in the crevices of the steps to the house. We have had such a diverse collection of speakers this year and are most grateful to Catherine and Margaret for seeking them out.

There will be no meeting in July as we have the Open Gardens on Sunday 17th July together with the Flower Festival at St. Johns and all the gardening club members will be working hard to make sure it is a successful day. If you can help, we still need volunteers to help sell tickets, man various stalls and serve tea and cakes – not forgetting the washing-up! After so much fun, the gardening club are having a day trip by coach on Tuesday, 19th July to Beth Chatto's Gardens near Colchester. The coach departs at 10.00am from the Blackbourne car park. We return there at around 3.30-

4.00pm. There are still some places, so if you are interested please contact Catherine Reynolds on 07735421079, e-mail cmbreynolds@aol.com. Our next gardening club meeting will be on Tuesday, 20th September at the Blackbourne. If you require further information about the Gardening Club please contact Nick Chamberlin on 242601.



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IS IT THE END OF HAWK END?

As many of you will remember, a while ago during the Bacon site redevelopment planning stage, a resident of Hawk End Lane asked 'But what about the pedestrian crossing of the rail line?' Sol and I then did a huge report on the crossing and the potential for accidents which was presented to the Parish council and Mid Suffolk planning.

Planning consent was withheld for a number of reasons including mitigating the risk of this crossing.

Since then there has been local consultation on a safer route bearing in mind functionality and costs. At a drop in session the village chose extending the footpath along the rail line towards the Hall farm underpass.

Now Network rail have commissioned Mott MacDonald to survey dozens of similar crossing on the whole of the Anglia rail network. There are a number of public drop in sessions now arranged in each area, and I attended the Bury St Edmunds Councillor briefing today and had a long chat with the Network rail consultants.

Hawk End crossing is a major risk should (when) the new properties be built, from one or two people a day, to potentially during building and when occupied hundreds a day.

Our branch line is a major traffic route for passenger and freight services. The Cambridge/Peterborough service does not stop at Elmswell and can be a through service travelling at eighty miles per hour. Should a person be crossing, fall or have an accident on the line (for instance a child stops to pick up a dropped toy) the train driver would not have enough time/distance to avoid a collision. Freight trains need more than twice a passenger trains stopping distance.

This crossing is not essential for village life like the crossing at the station and therefore can be closed and diverted with no loss of functionality.

Network Rails representatives have entered into a dialog with Taylor Wimpey as to the way forward and land owners on the proposed new route need to be consulted and land made available, cleared and modifications made to the underpass before the building works start.

There is a time frame. This year for the next three months public consultations over all the proposed closures and/or diversions. Next year the plan is to ratify these plans and following this the work would commence in two years time.

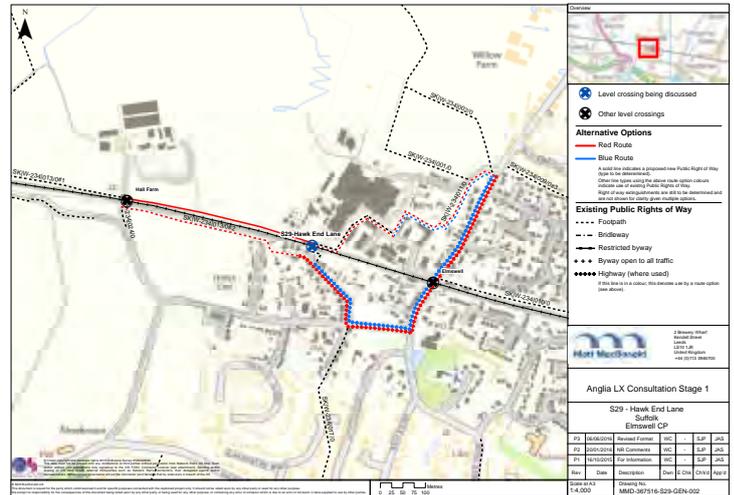
This is a probably an excessive time frame for the developers, so hopefully they will be in a position to negotiate deals and get the diversion in and operational much quicker than this.

For network rail the removal of all level crossing is a high priority, some will be impossible to remove. Whilst public safety is a huge influence train journey times are being squeezed by consumers and the Government, so slower safer traffic need to be replaced by fast economical services. If each train journey can be improved

by even 5 minutes then the freight service can have one or two extra movements a day. Please remember a train carries loads equal to 600 lorry movements, something we can be grateful for here on the A14. With the container ports here on this coast it has to make sense to use our rail networks efficiently.

Mike Friend

Further information: <http://www.networkrail.co.uk/anglialevelcrossings/>



COMMUNITY TRANSPORT IN SUFFOLK - ALL CHANGE!

There have been recent changes to rural transport in Suffolk. Following two years of planning, consultation and tendering a new service emerged on Monday 13th June.

'Connecting Communities' is the new service.

For many people, particularly in rural communities, conventional bus services are unable to meet their transport needs because the services are infrequent, unavailable or physically inaccessible. The new service is aimed at anyone living 'off the grid' that needs to be somewhere and they will have difficulty making the journey.

These services are for anyone who needs to travel but has no public transport available to them locally. Booking will need to be in advance and ideally you will be picked up and connected with an appropriate bus route or train link for onward travel. For journeys where connecting to other services is inappropriate, end to end journeys may be possible.

Connecting Communities services are charged like a bus fare and are available to young or old. It may be students unable to go to college

anyone who needs to go to the, doctor, dentist or hospital appointments even shopping. In most cases, Connecting Communities attempts to meet these needs by offering transport to connect with public transport services either bus or rail giving opportunities for onward travel. Where public transport is unsuitable for passengers because of a disability or the location of the journey end, a door to door service may be offered.

This service is not in competition with local taxi, bus or train services who need to boost their passenger revenue to remain viable or as I have warned before, they face cutting services. Community Transport services offer a variety of transport solutions to improve accessibility to other services and facilities for the people of Suffolk. These transport services are operated by not for profit community groups and rely heavily on volunteers. If you have a few hours to spare, would like to get out and meet/help people then contact connecting.communities@suffolk.gov.uk to discuss their scheme and the mileage allowance and training.

Most users of the old services will be aware of the changes and they can be contacted to check if the service is available to you or to book the service on Mid Suffolk & Ipswich BSEVC O1449 614271. The service is operational Monday to Saturday from 0700 to 1900.

Connecting Communities services are charged like a bus fare and are available to young or old. The new service replaces the former Dial a Ride, Community Cars and Demand Responsive Transport (DRT), also known as Suffolk Links. www.suffolkonboard.com. There is a brief video on that site and it will be populated with more information in the next few weeks.

This is an 'Emerging' service and will be tuned and refined as it is operated. Check out their short video here <http://communities.suffolkonboard.com/about/>

Mike Friend



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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

While it has been a case of summer showers throughout June, in the library we have been trying to put a smile on everyone's face!

We had a brilliant time helping village author Annie Stewart launch the third book in her popular Wilf series. The invited guests who attended the private launch were lucky enough to get free samples of the Wilf sausages. And the children who came to see Annie during the public launch got a chance to sit and chat with her about the new book. On a personal note, Elmswell Library staff would like to thank Annie for choosing to launch her book here. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did and we wish you all the very best of luck with Wilf In Love and all your future endeavours.

Another success for the library was the launch of our Keep in Touch group (KIT). The sessions are aimed at new people to the village, or anyone that's feeling isolated or out of touch and want to meet new people and find out what is happening in and around Elmswell. The volunteers who organised KIT had great fun meeting so many new people. They enjoyed good conversation and shared lots of information, which resulted in some questions and a suggestion we want to throw out to a wider audience:

- Is anybody interested in meeting once a week/ fortnight/month for a crafting session?
- Would anyone like to start weekly walks – with or without dogs – exploring the public footpaths around the village?
- The University of the Third Age flourishes in Thurston, with many interest groups which people may want to get involved in, the membership secretary is Carol Drury, on 07508 601976.

If you are interested in either of the first two suggestions or would like to find out if anyone else is interested in U3A activities then please leave your name and contact details at the library.

The next KIT meetings will be at 11:30am-12:30pm on Tuesday July 19th and 2:30-3:30pm on Thursday July 20th. Anyone is welcome to come along, even if it's just to meet new people and have a laugh!

The Family History Group continues to flourish with new members finding out about their families and the secrets the records hold! The group plans to meet during July (2:30pm on July 6th and 20th) and then take a break for the summer before re-starting in the Autumn. So if you would like to join then leave your name and number at the library and we will be in touch.

In between we will be busy with the Summer Reading Challenge - if you remember, we challenge children to read six books over the six week summer holiday in exchange for rewards. Those that complete the challenge get a medal and certificate in September.

This year the theme is The Big Friendly Read and is inspired by Roald Dahl, so we are hoping it will be lots of fun. Children will be able to sign up from Saturday, July 16th.

Another date for your diary is Wednesday, July 13th at 7pm when we shall be holding a Brave New Reads Bubbles and Books evening. The aim will be to bring together readers who have enjoyed (or not) the selection this year and would like to meet like-minded bibliophiles! The plan will be to enjoy a glass of bubbly, nibbles and hopefully some discussion around the

books which have been flying off the shelves this past two months. There is still time to get involved – all you need to do is read just one of the BNR selection – they are all brilliant in different ways so there is bound to be something which appeals to you.

And finally, it was with great sadness that we heard about the passing of Mrs Joan Davidson. She was a great supporter and friend to the library. We would like to thank her family and friends for their incredibly generosity in donating £860 to Elmswell Library Friends. We are completely overwhelmed by this gesture. Emma and her staff are having a really good think about how to spend the money on something which would be a fitting tribute to Mrs Davidson, who helped with the Summer Reading Challenge for many years. We hope to let you know very soon.

Elmswell Library is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-1pm and 2-7pm, Wednesday and Friday from 2-5pm, Saturday from 10am-1pm and Sunday from 10am-3pm.



ELMSWHEELIANS 2016

On a perfect summer evening, on Friday 10th June, 16 cyclists enjoyed our first evening ride of the year. Leaving the village along Ashfield Road, we cycled on to Norton Little Green, Hunston, Badwell Ash, Badwell Green, Long Thurlow, Daisy Green, Wetherden Upper Town, and back into the village via Grove Lane and Ashfield Road. The ride ended at "The Fox" for well-earned refreshment. Total distance cycled was 12 miles.

Our next ride is another evening one, on Friday 22nd July, and our BIG ONE our now annual Fundraising Ride (our 4th).

This year we are supporting the children's charity known as "Bumblebees". Please join us.

"Bumblebees" is a locally based organisation, at Sproughton, who work directly with children with learning / movement problems, including Down's Syndrome. They rely solely on donations, do not have the marketing power of

the national charities, and are always in need of support. All the monies raised will be given directly to them.

The event planned is a 15-mile (approx.) Ride, starting from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell, at 6.30 p.m. The ride will finish at Elmswell "Fox".

There will be an entrance fee of £5 per person; and if we can find donors (*please*), there will be a raffle at "The Fox" at the end of the ride.

It's optional, but Sponsorship Forms are available for anyone wishing to raise money in this way. Please support this event if you can, but do note - for safety reasons we will not be able to allow children under the age of 16 to ride.

Please support us in whatever way you can..... join us for the ride, sponsor a rider, donate a prize, or just make a donation. And please note you are always welcome to join us for one of our regular rides. For regular rides

there is no charge. Just come and enjoy some social cycling. You must however be aged 16+.

Other Rides planned :

Sunday 21st August (15 miles approx.)

Sunday 25th September (15 miles approx.)

N.B. All rides start from Abbots Warren in Church Road.

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



THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



COMMEMORATION OF THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY 11TH JUNE AT THE WESLEY HALL 1.30 – 4.30 P.M.

Rather than let the Queen's Official 90th Birthday pass without celebration in Elmswell, 3 members of the W.I. decided to step in at short notice to organise an event. This took the form of the Village Café with a few added extras. Donations and support were speedily forthcoming which encouraged us to do the best we could in the time left. There was a children's Fancy Dress competition, piano music throughout the afternoon (thanks to Caroline and John) and a visit by " The Queen" herself and just one Corgi! Thank you Ma'am. There was a Royal Themed Quiz and the winner, with 15 out of 20 correct answers, was Sally Lakey, who received some chocolates. All those attending had the opportunity to personally sign a birthday card which has been posted to Buckingham Palace.

There are about 30 village residents over 90 years old, of whom several attended, receiving complimentary tea and cake, they also judged the Fancy Dress. The oldest attendee aged 96 received a Commemorative coin to mark the occasion. Due to the popularity of the event, for a short time, several customers had to wait for tea, for this we apologise. The afternoon concluded with Happy Birthday, The Loyal toast, cutting of the cake and the National Anthem.

We would like to thank all the Village Organisations who helped to make this such a successful event, including the Over 55s for decoration the Hall, Gerald for putting up posters, Methodist Church for the free use of the Wesley Hall, Toddler Group for the use of the

toys in the Garden, both afternoon and evening W.I.s and other helpers for cakes and assistance on the day. The Camera Cub took the photos and the Village Firemen came in for tea. We would also like to thank The Mace Stores, the Co-op and Tesco at Bury St. Edmunds for donations. We have also received many positive responses and thank-yous from residents since Saturday.

Thank you to everyone in the village, especially anyone we might have forgotten, who helped in various ways to make this an enjoyable and memorable afternoon. This was not intended to be a fund raiser, but surplus funds will be given to the Firemen to go back to village organisations.

Lesley, Carol and Stephanie



THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY SPEECH (as delivered at the Wesley Hall by Sylvia Walton)

I would like to thank you all for coming along this afternoon to make my special Birthday party such a success. Also, for the villagers of Elmswell for contributing to the occasion in many different ways.

I'm sorry Phillip could not be with me this afternoon, but I do hope to live until I am 100 years old. He will then be with

me in 'spirit form'. I will then send myself a Birthday Card. This will console me.

I would like to thank Stephanie and her committee for arranging this celebration, but a special thank you to someone called Sylvia Walton who had the date on her birth certificate altered by two years so that she could represent me today.



NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

A good year for orchids

June is the month when we start looking out for orchids at Lukeswood and Kiln Meadow and this year they haven't failed us. Perhaps the cool, damp conditions suit them.

At Kiln Meadow three different types of orchid are growing in good numbers. The Marsh Orchid is quite spectacular – a tall orchid with clusters of flowers growing the length of its spike in a variety of colours ranging from dark purple to pale pink and almost white. Pyramidal Orchids first appeared at Kiln Meadow a few years ago and we now have an area with nearly a hundred plants. A beautiful rose-pink, conical in shape, these orchids look stunning when they appear in numbers. As with the Marsh Orchid, there is some variation in colour, and at least one of ours is almost white. They are quite easy to see, with many growing close to the path. We also have a few Bee Orchids at Kiln Meadow, but these are harder to spot, growing amongst the tall grasses. It's worth having a hunt around, though, because they are really interesting to look at, with pale pink petals and the lip in the shape and colours of a bee. They have evolved in this way to lure in the real insect, which thinks it has found a mate and unwittingly helps to pollinate the plant.

There are far fewer orchids at Lukeswood – for now. Kiln Meadow has benefited from 20 years or more of chemical-free management, so conditions are more favourable for wildflowers. It won't be long before Lukeswood catches up! We know that the seeds are lying dormant in the ground, as we have seen a few clumps of Bee Orchids in recent years. They can take as much as ten years to finally germinate (germination depending on a complicated symbiotic relationship with certain fungi), so we have to be patient. This year we have a few clumps of Common Spotted Orchid. At least we think that's what they are. Unlike the very similar Marsh Orchids at Kiln Meadow, these have spotted leaves. However, these two are notoriously difficult to identify and, to make matters worse, they often hybridise producing plants with features of both types. Whatever..... they are still very lovely to look at.

Not such a good year for butterflies?

Cool weather with frequent heavy downpours certainly doesn't favour butterflies. By now we should be seeing many species on the wing, but there are very few about even on days when the sun comes out. In the last few days we've

seen one or two Meadow Brown and Ringlet butterflies – these are species which like cooler, darker conditions – but none of the sun-lovers.

Butterflies are very susceptible to changes in the environment so they are good biodiversity indicators. Changes in butterfly numbers can be an early warning sign for other declines in the wildlife population. This is one of the motivations behind the Big Butterfly Count which is now in its sixth year, providing invaluable information about the health of our nation's wildlife. Anyone can take part – it's very easy to do and great fun. Go to www.bigbutterflycount.org where you can find out all you need to know to take part this year. There are some very useful downloads, ID charts, etc., and you can record and submit your sightings via an app (or online via the website if you prefer). You can do your count in the garden – or why not go along to Kiln Meadow or Lukeswood and see what you can spot there? The more people that take part the better – it can be from the same location. Even if you don't see very much – or anything! – that's still very useful information, so go out and get spotting and do your bit for nature!

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!

Hello from St. John's :)

We hope you are having a nice Suffolk summer! In June, we had our annual church BBQ. Normally, we meet in the beautiful rectory garden and a huge marquee is required to provide enough shade for everyone as we munch our hot dogs and burgers! However, this summer, we were not so lucky with the weather! The forecast was good, but in reality, it was STILL raining as it approached 4pm... With only 30 minutes to spare, the location of our social event was changed! The food, BBQ(!), hot water urn, tables etc. were all moved down the road by some super humans. Text messages were sent and phone calls made and everyone arrived at the church instead.

The food was delicious, the children made some gorgeous paper flowers for the flower festival in July, the (non-alcoholic) drinks were flowing, the friendships blossomed and the event was a huge success. Have you met the congregation of St John's? They are a resilient lot!

In June we also had the fantastic Men's Breakfast featuring Malcolm Rogers speaking on his experience as a Christian minister in early post-communist Russia. Another June event was the "cards, coffee and cake morning" - it went really well. Cakes were consumed and beautiful handmade cards were sold to raise money for our lovely church!

St John's Church Summer Fair is at 12:00-3:00pm Saturday 2nd July 2016 at the Wesley Hall. Do come down and take a look at the stalls - tombola, cafe, bbq, bric-a-brac, games and messy church.



The summer is a popular time to get married and we are delighted that there are several weddings at St John's in 2016. If you're interested in having a your marriage service at St John's, please get in touch. We can discuss the details of booking a church wedding and the Christian understanding of marriage.

Please join us on Sunday mornings! Everyone is always welcome :)

Sunday 3rd July
 9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am BCP Morning Prayer

Sunday 10th July
 8:00am BCP Holy Communion
 10:30am Parish Praise

Sunday 17th July
 10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 24th July
 8:00am BCP Morning Prayer
 10:30am Service for all ages

Sunday 31st July
 8:00am BCP Holy Communion
 10:30am Service for all ages

Sunday 7th August
 9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am BCP Holy Communion

The Friends of St John's Church

Our 21st Annual Service was held on Sunday 12 June; the service was conducted by Revd Peter Goodridge, the Choir sang 'Love is His word', readers were Brenda Begg and Barbara Yeates, prayers were led by Jean Folkard and Catherine Joughin was our speaker. Following the service a light buffet lunch was served.

Our Annual Meeting will be held in the Church on Saturday 9 July at 9.30am and will be followed at 10am by a Coffee Morning, to which everyone is welcome. Admission is free and there will be cakes, bric à brac, books, etc for sale.

Then on 16, 17 and 18 July there will be a Flower Festival - 'A Feast of Flowers', with the church being open from 1pm to 5pm each day. Refreshments will be available. If you would like to take part in this event by providing a flower arrangement, please contact Jean Folkard.

J Folkard tel: 01359 242099

ST JOHN'S 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 summer months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5. Please make cheques payable to "ST JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

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- 3 thinking of Stanley on this, his Birthday. Pam & Eric.
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- 5 in loving memory of my dear husband John Davis, on our 64th Wedding Anniversary. Pauline.
- 8 in loving memory of Vic Wade on his Birthday
- 10 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 15 in loving memory of Ivy Millicent Elliston.
- 20 in memory of Reginald Bloomfield.
- 21 in loving memory of my husband William Clark (Bill), on his Birthday.
- 23 in loving memory of Thomas Clover.

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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

Father David Finegan



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

What a busy month June was, we had the European Football Championships, the French Open Tennis, Royal Ascot, the Queen's 90th and Prince Philip's 95th birthday celebrations, the EU Referendum, Major Tim Peake's safe return to earth from the International Space Station. Lots of things to see, enjoy, and revel in depending on your point's view. For me the one thing that overshadowed all these events was the news of the wicked and evil killing of a young Mum and MP Jo Cox. I like many people in this part of the country had not heard of Jo Cox, but it soon became clear that she was a much loved and respected person. Our thoughts and prayers must be for her husband and family who will undoubtedly be so bewildered and wonder why, politically motivated killings as this appears to have been are thank god a rarity in this country lets us all give thanks for this and pray that they do not become the norm.

It was perhaps coincidental that our speaker on the Sunday immediately following Jo Cox's murder, Carole Almond spoke on the subject of forgiveness using the parable of the unforgiving servant as the basis of her message.

Forgiveness is not always easy, many people will be so upset and angry with the killer that they will find forgiveness almost impossible, our speaker stressed that hanging onto hatred can

sometimes be detrimental to our health, and we should all try to forgive the actions of such fanatics for our own sakes.

On a lighter note preparations are well in hand for the Christians Together in Elmswell's 2016 Children's Holiday Club (Kingdom Express) to be held at the Blackbourne on 15th to 19th August.

Children aged 5 – 11 can be registered by contacting Jackie Hull on 01359 245918 or at the Elmswell School's Fayre and at the Elmswell School Playground at 3PM on the last few days of the school term.

Our Ladies friendship group will not be meeting in July or August.

Food and Friends lunch (for our senior citizens) takes place on 14th July contact Jackie on 01359245918 if you have not been before to be assured of a place.

As ever we offer a warm welcome to anyone wishing to join us at any of our meetings or services.

In July we welcome the following speakers to lead our services:-

- 3rd July Rev Barbara Challis (includes Communion)
- 10th July Stephen Spurgeon (All age worship)
- 17th July Stephen Horrex
- 24th July Christine Myers
- 31st July Sally Sago

For information about times etc. see our website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk

Email Tony on cockant2@btinternet.com, ring Jackie on 01359245918 or Dave on 01359241323

Once again thank you for taking the time to read these few words of mine.

Dave Hollings



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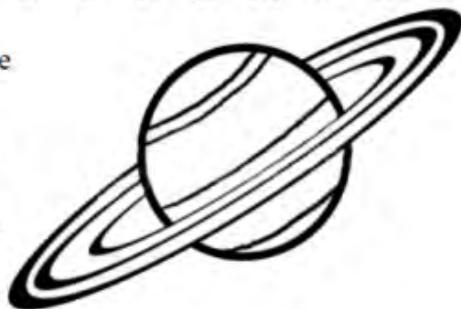


SPACE

Our Solar System

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 Y F A E D S T I N O I S L
 Q O N R C A T C Y A E G R
 J U P O S E E Q O N R M I
 S T M L R R H T U Q W U Y
 W H D F E T U T H Q U S D
 Q D L S R L P L X F M Z W
 L X P A P E R E R I S Y V
 X H E T N Q J I P Y U U P
 A H Y A X I U G M Q J E I
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- Earth
- Eris
- Jupiter
- Mars
- Mercury
- Neptune
- Pluto
- Saturn
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- Venus



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YOU WILL NEED: LOTS OF DIFFERENT COLOURS OF PLAYDOUGH, MULTI COLOURED STRAWS AND SOME GOOGLY EYES.

WHAT TO DO:

1. MAKE THREE BALLS OF PLAYDOUGH TO MAKE YOUR ALIENS BODY AND FEET
2. ADD LOTS OF STRAWS TO THE ALIENS BODY
3. ADD SOME GOOGLY EYES TO YOUR ALIEN



ROCK BUN RECIPE

You will need: 225g self-raising flour, pinch of Salt, 100g margarine, 75g sultanas, 50g caster Sugar, 1 egg and a drop of milk

What to do:

- Heat the oven to 200 °C and prepare your baking tray
- Mix together the flour and salt, then rub in the margarine
- Add the sultanas and sugar
- Mix it altogether to form a stiff dough, adding the egg and milk
- Pull the dough into little rock cakes onto the baking tray, and bake for 10 – 15 minutes
- ENJOY!

FACT: Footprints and tyre tracks left by astronauts on the moon will stay there forever as there is no wind on the moon to blow them away!

JOKE:
 Why did the sun go to school?
 To get brighter!

JOKE:
 What is a spaceman's favourite chocolate bar?
 A mars bar!



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COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Proposed Residential Development

Land to the East of Borley Crescent, Elmswell

The current landowner (Matthew Jewers) is working on plans to develop land to the east of Borley Crescent, Elmswell for up to 60 new houses.

As you will be aware, there is a housing shortage throughout the country. Local Councils are required to boost the supply of housing and approve planning applications for sustainable development, particularly where there is a current shortage in housing land supply as is the case in Mid Suffolk District. The local population is continuing to grow and as a result it is estimated that at least 20,000 new homes will be needed across Mid Suffolk and Babergh Districts by 2036. Elmswell is a Key Service Centre which is expected to accommodate a significant proportion of the additional growth required.

The site is a sustainable and suitable option for delivering much needed new homes. The site is not covered by any environmental constraints and is within walking and cycling distance of local services, facilities and the train station. The development will form a logical extension to the settlement.



Proposed Site Masterplan

Summary of the Proposals

- The planning application will be made in outline for up to 60 dwellings with vehicular access off Borley Crescent
- The outline application will establish the principle of development on the site, the extent and the mix of housing. Details such as siting and design will be considered at a later date through a reserved matters application
- As part of this proposal all houses will be limited to 2 storey in height
- The proposal will secure smaller properties to meet local needs (2 bedroom houses and bungalows)
- The existing public footpaths around the site will be retained and enhanced
- Enhanced landscaping will be provided along the eastern and southern boundaries of the site
- The planning application will be accompanied by reports which demonstrate that the development would not give rise to flood risk or harm to landscape character, the highways network or ecological interests

Please send your comments to info@arplanning.co.uk or

Armstrong Rigg Planning, The Exchange, Colworth Science Park, Sharnbrook,
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ELMSWELL BROWNIES HAVE AGAIN HAD A BUSY MONTH



The trip to Nowton Park before half term proved to be as much of a success as last year's trip. The girls went bug hunting and built dens, and luckily they managed to avoid the rain! Thank you again to the parents who helped out on this evening, without your support trips out wouldn't be able to happen.

The girls have spent evenings at the hall making Father's Day presents and cards, the girls decorated mugs and made some Father Day cards. Hopefully the girls remembered to give them to their recipient otherwise we have just spoils the surprise!



After the cards we sent to the Queen for her birthday last month, we received a letter back thanking the girls for their birthday wishes.

June will see the girls completing parts of their hostess badge, and they will each be inviting a friend along to brownies, where they will play some games that the girls have chosen and have their friend be their waitress for a drink and a small snack!

We have our annual midsummer madness event at Lukeswood this month, where all units from the Thedwastre District join together to sing lots of very loud campfire songs, and aim to raise some money for cancer research in memory of



our dear guiding friend, Kay Dinkele who sadly died of breast cancer. We just hope we get some summer like weather for this evening.



In the summer some of the girls are going away to Norfolk to join in with a county wide camp in Norfolk. Hundreds of girls will join together from around Suffolk for this 3 day camp. Again, we just hope this rain subsides!

If your daughter is interested in joining brownies or any of the Girlguiding groups (rainbows or guides) please go to www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus for more information and to register your interest!



ELMSWELL MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP



This is probably the most difficult article I have had to write to date. It is with great sadness I have to prepare

you for the great possibility that we may have to move from the Wesley Hall on the 3rd July, ready for the Hall closure on the 4th July. As of today's date (20th June 2016) the Wesley Centre has yet to be purchased by Elmswell Parish Council (as far as we have been informed). We are still very hopeful that their negotiations will continue and a happy outcome can be achieved, both for the village and the Methodists. As we understand, the next Parish Council meeting has been re-scheduled and we have been led to believe that this ties in with an announcement regarding the

sale. Jen, Donna and Helen will be attending the meeting and will report back ASAP.

Our hope is that the sale has moved forward sufficiently, so that we will not have to leave the hall, but in case we do, Ria has very kindly offered us storage for all of our equipment until we either find suitable alternative premises or the Wesley Hall purchase is made by the Parish Council. If we are unable to continue at Wesley Hall, our short-term plan is to shut for the summer holidays (which are generally quite quiet anyway) and re-start again in September with a big re-launch.

We will not be abandoning you completely during the holidays and have decided to have regular meetings at different local venues e.g. Lukeswood, Needham Lakes or anywhere you would like to suggest. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

The Fire Station visit will go ahead as planned on the 4th July 2016. We will meet in the Wesley Hall car park at 10am and will still have a Teddy Bear's picnic even if we all have to go to Donna's back garden for it!

Just to reiterate; even if we shut during July and August we WILL be back somewhere somehow in September. Updates will continue in the Newsletter and on Facebook.





ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The June meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group considered the newly published Mid Suffolk Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). This is a document required under the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) whereby local authorities seek to establish realistic assumptions about the availability, suitability and likely economic viability of land to meet the development need that they have identified. It covers the period 2015 – 2031 and is a technical assessment of land availability. It doesn't have anything to do with the possibility of a site obtaining Planning permission which is an entirely separate process.

The steering group takes an interest in this publication as it seeks to address a key aspect of what a Neighbourhood Plan seeks to do. The recent indications from landowners of sizeable applications for development on sites outside of the existing development boundary, together with the evidence from other villages where such applications, however unsuitable, have succeeded, suggest that Elmswell needs policies that can offer a real and statutory check on where development can happen. Backed by the views garnered from the community questionnaires, the Housing Needs Survey etc., the group must follow the practices and procedures required for the production of a Plan which passes the tests of local referendum and formal examination.

The SHLAA identifies 8 sites with the potential to support development. The Meeting discussed the merits and drawbacks of each in turn and reflected on the MSDC reasoning as it might inform their own process of consulting with the community as to where the inevitable and sizeable future development of our village should best take place.

Some members also attended a MSDC Neighbourhood Plan Networking Meeting at Woolpit on 16th June. A panel of Planning professionals lead the session including Ian Poole, who is acting as the Elmswell group's, 'critical friend', Rachel Hogger, who is retained by Messrs. Urban Vision, professional advisers to Elmswell's Plan team and the new Lead Officer on Neighbourhood Plans at Mid Suffolk, Bill Newman. A Plan has to be professionally examined prior to submission to a referendum in the Plan area and a leading Examiner, Ann Skippers, also made a presentation on that particular element of the Plan process.

The next meeting of the Steering Group will take place after consultation with Bill Newman, as the incoming District Council policy head, whose experience in the plan process elsewhere should provide a valuable perspective.

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

Marian Abbott	Marian731@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
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

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TO SEE THE FULL MID SUFFOLK SHLAA DOCUMENT, SIMPLY SEARCH: MID SUFFOLK SHLAA



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ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

Elmswell Open Gardens Day

The Bowls Club will be opening its gates to all Villagers on Sunday 17 July; *Elmswell's Open Gardens day*. So come and try a bowl or two to see if you are drawn to playing the sport.

This will be the first occasion that this has occurred and visitors will be able to see just how well our Green is maintained by, our Greenkeeper, Nick Chamberlain. This allows the Club to play their best all season.

The Gardens will be open between 1pm - 6pm. There are "gardens" within the Bowls Green area and, weather permitting, there will be a couple of rinks laid-up if anyone who wants to try their hand at bowling. Shoes and Woods will be provided. So why not take this opportunity to 'roll-up' a wood or two. You might find you enjoy it and want to come and join-in playing on a regular basis.

Results for EBC's matches in the past month

The Club played its long-standing annual friendly match with Mendlesham Bowls Club on Sunday 29 May at 2:00pm, in superb weather. The match was held at home and the EBC won this year's tie (78 - 64) so all were happy after the match and we celebrated with afternoon tea in the Clubhouse. The Clubs alternate each year to host the match. The history of this friendly match goes back some 20 years. One of the members, who at that time, had a strong family connection with Mendlesham started Mendlesham Bowls Club and the annual event was created.

David Begg, Club Captain, won the hard-fought 'Jubilee Cup' on 4 June when, again, the weather was perfect for playing Bowls. Four rounds were played to reach the final, which was played between David and Michael Woss and went down to the wire being settled in the final end! Our congratulations go to David and our commiserations to Michael; until next time!

The Ladies Singles tournament was played on 18 June, in miserably cold wet weather. The matches were stopped at the semi-final stage; which was played between Brenda Begg & Linda Abbott and Sheila Faulkner & Barbara Yeates. Each winner will go forward to the finals on 'Finals Days' (3 & 4 September). There was also good support from the male members for this competition, which hasn't always been the case, in the past.

Club events in the coming month are:

- 25 June The President's Cup
- 9 July The Mixed Singles Competition
- 17 July Tommy Cooper Memorial Trophy (at St Botolph's Club)

Club Matches against other Clubs

The Wednesday evening Team tops their League with 7 wins from 7 matches. It begins to look as if they could dominate their division (Division 3) of the BURY & DISTRICT BOWLS LEAGUE 'C'. Congratulations and the very best of luck for the remainder of the season.

As a correction to May's report; the evening matches through the summer nights start between 6:15 to 7:00 pm according to the daylight time available to play. Four teams play in these matches and not 3 as reported in May. All results as at the time of being sent for publication.

Stowmarket & District; League 3 (Monday evening)			
23 May	Needham Market 'B'	A	Lost: 67 - 80
30 May	Bildeston	H	Lost: 62 - 83
6 June	St Botolph's 'B'	A	Won: 104 - 44
13 June	Great Barton	H	Won; 46 - 45
20 June	Woodfield 'B'	A	Postponed (Rained-off)

Stowmarket & District; League 3 (Tuesday afternoon)			
24 May	Haughley 'B'	H	Won: 34 - 24
31 May	Bacton	A	Postponed (Rained-off)
7 June	Gipping Valley 'B'	H	Won: 34 - 31
14 June	St Botolph's	A	Lost: 30 - 36
21 June	Walsham Le Willows	H	Lost: 30 - 31

Area 'D' Triples League 1 (Tuesday evening)			
24 May	St Edmundsbury Gold	H	Won: 88 - 48
31 May	British Sugar 'A'	A	Won: 83 - 66
7 June	League Cup (R 2) Stow Rookery	H	Lost: 64 - 65
14 June	Woodfield	A	Won: 94 - 56
21 June	Great Barton	H	Result next Issue

Triple League (Wednesday evenings)			
25 May	Walsham Le Willows	H	
1 June	St Botolph's	A	Won: 104 - 39
8 June	Haughley	H	Lost: 55 - 78
15 June	Needham Market	A	Won: 80 - 53
22 June	Gipping Valley	H	Result next Issue

Bury & District Bowls League - Division 3 (Thursday evenings)			
26 May	Old Newton	A	Won: 76 - 64
2 June	Stanton 'B'	H	Won: 85 - 56
9 June	Shield (Preliminary Round)	-	Bye to Round 1
16 June	Hopton	H	Won: 99 - 63
23 June	Thetford ex-Services	H	Result next Issue

(Errors & Omissions excepted, E&OE)



Trevor Clarke
21-June-16



Thinking Allowed

I was thinking the other day about the Monty Python sketch, "What have the Romans ever done for us?" Just as a group of rebels are plotting against the force occupying their nation, they are struck at how the Romans had actually brought a lot more good with them than bad.

It then occurred to me that many people these days have a similar attitude towards the Church. Some might even say "What has the Christian faith ever done for us?" Like the Python sketch, the answer is a long list – charity for the poor, the abolition of the slave trade, the introduction of education to the masses, medical care, an end to the exploitation of child labour, fair trade agreements. Many of the freedoms and privileges we enjoy have their roots in the Christian faith and godly people worked hard to secure what we enjoy today. And all of this is before we even get to the core Christian beliefs of God's love, salvation from evil and the promise of eternal life.

However, as we are entering the holiday season, it is worth remembering that the concept of time off also has its root in the Judeo-Christian tradition. Christians believe workers should enjoy at least one day off a week to relax, recharge the batteries and to spend time with the family and God. But in addition to the weekly Sabbath, there was also the introduction of other days of rest and religious celebration – "holy days". This is where we get our word holiday from.

So, as we lie on the beach enjoying the sun, a hike across the mountains or a visit to a place steeped in history, let's remember that this is a special time of blessing from God. Happy holidays everyone.

*Revd Peter Goodridge
Rector, St John's Elmswell*



JOAN DAVIDSON

Joan passed away peacefully at home on 20 April 2016 and we celebrated her life with a Service at St.Johns, Elmswell on 9th May.

Our sincere thanks go out to: Peter the Rector, The Choir, Jean the Organist, Graham the Verger, Lorna for the flowers and everyone who attended and made the service so special.

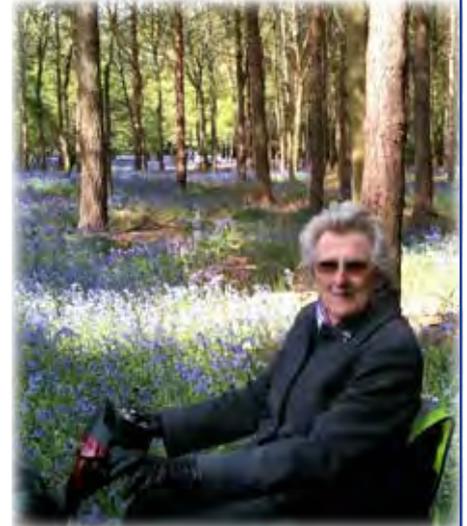
Joan had many friends and was always very grateful to those who ran all of the clubs and village societies. There are many hard working volunteers in Elmswell who made such a difference to Mum and others like her..

We would like to thank everyone who supported Mum over the years and for all the help, support and sympathy given to us since.

Joan was a great supporter of the library and we were delighted to pass a total donation of £860 to the "Elmswell Library Friends" in her memory.

Thanks to all who have contributed to such a good cause.

*Peter, Carol,
Ann & Steven
Davidson*



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ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

Results

Sun 22nd May
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Great Cornard 130ao

Sunday 12th June
Elmswell 98ao
Milden 144 for 7

Sunday 19th June
Old Newton 144 for 6
Elmswell 141ao

Upcoming Fixtures

June
26th Tendring Park (A)

July
3rd Walsham Le Willows (H)
10th Lavenham (A)
17th Twinstead (A)

As ever, we are always on the look out for new players to join the club with all abilities and ages welcome. If you would be interested in taking part then we would love to hear from you. You can contact the club through one of the following methods.

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Web: www.elmswellcricketclub.co.uk

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STREET FARM DAY NURSERY – A CLASS ACT

Lisa and her staff at the day nursery at Street Farm on Station Road play a big part in the community – as evidenced by our reports on their activities and their supplying our excellent ‘Children’s Page’ each and every month.

They are currently celebrating after being shortlisted for National Day Nurseries Association’s Regional Nursery of the Year Award. If the nursery scoops this award, it could go on to win the UK title of NDNA Nursery of the Year at the NDNA Nursery Awards on 1 July. The competition is entirely judged on parental comment, assessment and grading. Scores of parents wrote glowing testimonies to help the nursery, against tough national competition, to the final.

Children’s TV presenter Dave Benson Philips will be announcing the winners at a glittering awards ceremony at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel in Milton Keynes on Friday 1st July. The NDNA’s annual conference is held at the same venue during the day.

The NDNA Chief Executive singled out the Elmswell enterprise as a great example of the amazing, inspirational work happening in the childcare sector every day.

Whatever the outcome, to have got this far is a great achievement...we will keep readers posted.



Karen Finch RHAD FSHAA FRSA



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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - JUNE REPORT

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August, at 7.30pm. The June meeting, held over by a week because Councillor commitments made a quorum unlikely took place on 27th at The Blackbourne with 8 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member John Levantis, County Council Ward Member Mrs Jane Storey, Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow, and 15 members of the public.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises the Council Chairman, Cllr Fred Pallett, the Council Vice-chairman, Cllr Shaun Pratt and Cllr Steve Harrison, nominated 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 May Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Cop.

County Council

Cllr Mrs Jane Storey made an oral report confirming that the issue of Devolution for Norfolk and Suffolk is dominating County Council business at the moment as an outcome is imminent. She pointed out that a decision to go ahead needed unanimous agreement and that she considered the concept worthy of support as it offers the possibility of increased funding for housing and infrastructure projects.

District Council

Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel's written report included confirmation that the District Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment is now published on their website suggesting areas of land over 2 hectares in size which might be considered as suitable for development in the medium term future. The Report also touched upon the proposed Devolution initiative which looks to have a Norfolk & Suffolk Mayor in place within the next year. Cllr John Levantis included in his report details of the Mid Suffolk council house building programme and other matters related to his brief as Portfolio Holder for Housing Delivery along with an invitation for suggestions as to what future such reports might best cover.

Transport

Cllr Mike friend, as Transport Officer, tabled a report on 2 meetings which he has recently attended on the new rural transport scheme which replace other schemes such as Suffolk links and Dial-a-Ride. He undertook to report fully in the Elmswell Newsletter.

Clerk's report

Peter Dow's monthly report included details of the recent Annual Parish meeting and other meetings and consultations attended on Council's behalf. He confirmed that, in light of concerns expressed regarding the siting of yet another mobile catering outlet on the highway which forms the station parking area for passengers North of the railway, he was liaising with Mid Suffolk's licensing team towards the possibility of a by-law imposing controls on the current situation of free-for-all. The report is available, along with others tabled at the meeting, on the Council's website.

Planning results

The meeting noted the following decisions made by Mid Suffolk District Council, the Planning Authority:

- Application 3569/15**, a Certificate of Lawful Development re dropped kerb & hard standing at 29 Rowan Green – GRANTED - EPC did not comment;
- Application 1162/16**, for the erection of detached dwelling....at The Barn, Grove Lane – REFUSED -EPC supported;
- Application 1780/16** to replace 7 windows....at Old Bank House, Station Road – GRANTED – EPC made no comment;
- Application 1680/16** for variation of Planning conditions required under Permission 344/14 at Tirole House, Church Road – GRANTED - EPC supported
- Application 0950/16** for the retention of 2 No. 40ft containers for the processing of hemp seed at Ten-Ten, Kiln Lane – GRANTED - EPC objected;
- Application 1801/16** for the erection of 1.8m high fence at Juniper Crossing, Cooks Road – GRANTED - EPS supported;
- Application 3918/15** for the approval of Reserved Matters pursuant to OPP 0846/13 at the former Grampian Harris site, St Edmund's Drive – GRANTED - EPC objected;
- Application 0700/16** Use of land for siting of residential mobile home...in connection with animal husbandry at Appledores Farm, Tostock – REFUSED - EPC objected.

Planning applications

The Meeting approved the following Planning applications:

- 2257/16** for the crown reduction by one third and rebalancing because of excessive shading of the property and the crowding out of other trees at The Grange;
- 2451/16** for a two-storey side / rear extension, single storey side extension, internal alterations, detached garage and associated external works at Tirole House, Church Road.
- 2259/16** for the erection of new single-storey detached dwelling (following demolition of existing bungalow); erection of single-storey detached car port / store structure and the construction of improved access at Termalles, Warren Lane.

Bacon Factory

The Meeting received an oral report from the Clerk following his attendance as requested by Council at the recent MSDC Planning Committee meeting which considered the application for the approval of Reserved Matters under 0846/13 at the former Grampian Harris site, St Edmund's Drive. On Council's behalf he had secured a concession which removes the right of individual dwellings to convert their garages into living space, a move designed to address Councillors' concerns over parking on the new development.

Policing

The meeting noted a response from the Stowmarket Local Policing Commander, Insp. Chris Galley, to a letter sent by Council jointly to the Chief Constable and to the Police & Crime Commissioner. The Council was reiterating the concerns of residents regarding the lack of Police response to certain recent incidents reported to them and to the perceived failure of the previous good liaison and relationship between the Council & residents and the Constabulary on many levels. Incidents cited included the recent spate of burglaries and a serious dangerous dog offence. The Inspector offered reassurance that the Stowmarket Safer Neighbourhood Team continues to serve Elmswell and will focus activity where issues are identified with both the neighbourhood response team and other departments in the Constabulary.

Community Speed Watch

Councillors agreed to underwrite and support the Elmswell Community Speed Watch group and to purchase a Speedar CSW Kit for the sum of £955.00 net of VAT. The group had previously shared a gun with the Norton group which has, for some time, been inactive thus allowing the Elmswell group full-time access to the equipment. This in turn has given scope for a very full and effective programme of checks. The Norton group is now active again and the suggestion is that to purchase Elmswell's own gun would be to allow their more frequent safety sessions to be continued.

Quiz grant

It was agreed that grant aid of £103.00 be made to the quiz to be held at Blackbourne on 28th January 2017 in aid of the East Anglian Air Ambulance charity.



Clerk's salary

The Meeting noted that the Parish Clerk's salary is contractually increased on the recommendation of the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks under the National Joint Council agreement whereby the spinal column point 40 rises from £34,746 full time equivalent to £35,093, an effective increase of £15.63 per month.

Co-option

There having been no requisition of a Poll following the resignation of Cllr Brian Hawes, Mr David Barker was unanimously co-opted on to the Council.

Sound system

Messrs Paul Bannister of Stowmarket, installers in 2005 of the original sound system in the Chamberlayne hall, were appointed in the matter of the specification, installation and commissioning of enhanced PA facilities at Blackbourne in a portable format that allows use elsewhere, using equipment purchased by Council for a sum not exceeding £5,000 net of VAT, such services to be secured for a sum not to exceed £1,000.

Speculative development approaches

The Clerk reported on several approaches made by landowners or their agents regarding the possibility of developments on various sites abutting the 1998 Local Plan village development boundary. Any communication is governed by the Council's pre-application protocol. A recent meeting had included the Chairman and Vice chairman of Council, Vice chairman of Planning and Ward Members from County and District Councils and a public consultation is promised by the Developer in July.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported on an attendance of 18 at the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26th May. Topics discussed included the timescale for development of the Bacon Factory site, affordable housing, the Neighbourhood Plan, the siting of a burger van on the parking space adjacent to the station and the continuing professional negotiations towards the purchase of the Wesley chapel and halls facility on School Road.

Wesley

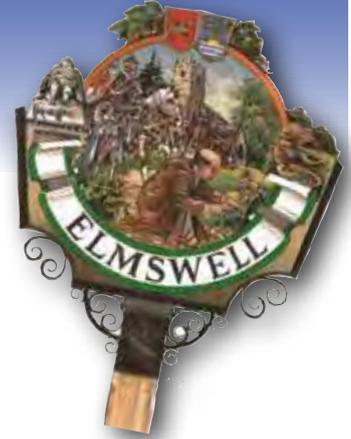
A member of the Bury St Edmunds Methodist Circuit Property Group spoke to confirm that a final offer is on the table in the process whereby the Parish Council is trying to secure the Wesley chapel and halls facility for community ownership and use. Members of the public spoke to urge a swift resolution and the Methodist representative confirmed that, if an acceptable deal is on the table before their closure deadline of 4th July, the facility would not be required to close over the ownership transition period.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 18th July 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 Gobblins factory premises. It is open for business on weekdays from 9.00am - 5.30 pm, excepting Bank Holidays. The answerphone is monitored daily.



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FOOTPATH WALK

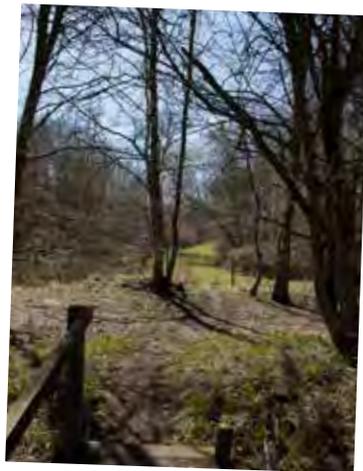
Our next walk starts, as usual, from Crown Mill, on

**SUNDAY 10th JULY
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



For a neighbourly summer, lease control

HEDGES...that might be in the way of the pavement

DOGS...that might be leaving dangerous and unpleasant mess

BONFIRES...that could be ruining someone's washing

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:

stowmarket.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 - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

July 2016

- 2 St John's Church Summer Fair = 12:00-3:00pm at the Wesley Hall.
- 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**
- 9 Coffee Morning (Friends of St John's Church) in the Church 10am-12noon
- 12 WI no meeting - see 16th July
- 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
- 16 River trip to Pin Mill & afternoon tea. Coach leaves Blackbourne 1.00pm.
- 16, 17, 18 Flower Festival (Friends of St John's Church) in the Church 1pm-5pm each day
- 17 Elmswell Open Gardens
- 19 Gardening Club - Summer Activity
- 19 Elmswell Exchange Social Club MEETING CANCELLED
- 22 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 22 Elmswellians - Evening 15 Mile Fund-Raising Bike Ride to support the locally-based children's charity known as "Bumblebees". The ride will start at 6.30 p.m. from Abbots Warren in Church Road, and will finish at The "Fox" with a Raffle. Riders must be aged 16 +. More details from Trevor on 01359 240908.
- 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
- 11 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club AGM and Strawberry Tea location to be agreed
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 25 Over 55's Club Afternoon Tea Cruise on "Orwell Lady from Ipswich

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
- 8 Over 55's Club Harvest Supper and Bingo
- 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 Davey - Let's Build a Gingerbread House
- 6 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 11 Elmswell WI we meet 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
- 20 Over 55's Club Mike Reed entertains OPEN EVENING
- 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
- 3 Over 55's Club Hot Dogs and Quiz Night
- 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

December 2016

- 3 Over 55's Club Xmas Party with "Jim Bob Duo"
- 5 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church 7.45pm - Nosh & Natter, entertainment by Born in a Barn - open to men as well
- 6 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Christmas Lunch
- 7 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Christmas Celebrations
- 8 Elmswell History Group, to be arranged 9 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell WI at the Blackbourne for 7.30pm Xmas Party
- 16 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 16 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30



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Guides 6.30 - 8.00,
Youth Club 7.00 - 9.00

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
Guides Trefoil Guild (1st Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 9.00

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
Karate 5.00 - 7.00

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

Forge Church one Sunday each month 1.30 - 6.00

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Call; 244134

Email; clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk





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