

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

June 2016



Happy Birthday, Ma'am

...see page 20



... See page 19

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.

People can foresee the future only when it coincides with their own wishes, and the most grossly obvious facts can be ignored when they are unwelcome...

...wrote George Orwell in 1945.

This was four years before he was to write one of his best remembered books, 'Nineteen Eighty-Four', about a world endlessly at war, under relentless surveillance from government and public manipulation, overseen by 'Big Brother' working through the Ministry of Truth. Looking 35 years into the future isn't easy. One year is bad enough – ask any bookmaker in Leicester. How did Orwell do? We commissioned a poll which sampled exhaustively - 3 shoppers in the queue at the Co-op, Stephen at the Mace, a couple having a meal in The Fox and 2 lads on the swings at Crown Mill. We can reveal:

- *World endlessly at war...*sadly, not far off the mark. 'When was the last time the News on tele. didn't show a war going on?'
- *Surveillance from Government...*growing all the time. 'They store your number plate details for years whether you've done something wrong or not.'
- *Public manipulation...*'The Government can spend millions on Referendum leaflets to help us make up our own minds – the other side can't.'

How would George do today – what might his view be for a new novel, seductively entitled, 'Twenty Fifty-One'? He could fondle a crisp new plastic fiver and wonder whether it has come too late...there are buskers in Trafalgar Square who can take credit card payments because so few people carry cash. He could wonder on the percentage of driverless cars might be on our roads and how driverless lorries will extricate themselves from the overhanging buildings in Suffolk villages where the Sat Nav guides them towards a new definition of traffic jam. He could describe a United Kingdom either in a European Union of (insert a number) countries or a United Kingdom with no such ties to neighbours other than those individually negotiated.

His problem in plotting the scenario is, simply, that there can be no facts, no immutable truths that can be brought forward to defend any of these hypotheses. We rely on 'experts'. The same experts that told us that the weekly 'safe' limit for alcohol consumption for men is not 21, as widely believed for many years, but just 14 – a single pint of Adnams a day (other beers are available). Now it seems that those particular 'experts' were largely drawn from a lobby group financed by the temperance movement. The same class of experts who give definitive figures for the value of our houses in or out of Europe, or who lecture us on the Turkish accession criteria, the merits of the Norwegian model... experts such as Delia Smith or Ian Botham.

The problems come closer to home when we consider plucky little Elmswell floundering amongst possibilities and projections and mindful of Malcolm X's contention that, 'the future belongs to those who prepare for it today'. Where are the facts that say just because Cambridge has the most sought after housing in the country that it will ripple out down A14 to settlements with a direct rail link to that silicon city? Where are the facts that say that, just because a Big Bad Developer has just won his appeal against plonking 175 houses in a field at Stowupland that him and his mates haven't got us in their sights? Where are the facts that say that the new secondary school anticipated to be needed to serve communities accessible from A14 won't be in Elmswell? And where are the facts that say that a community owned facility on the Wesley site on School Road could be sustained at a price the community would be willing to pay?

To quote cracker mottoes and fortune cookie *bons mots*, if we don't take control of our own destiny, someone else will - the best way to predict the future is to create it - but flexibility requires that we map out our future in pencil... ask our Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.



When Marilyn Monroe was criticised for posing for a photograph with no clothes on, she responded, 'I didn't have nothing on. I had the radio on'.

The facts are the facts. But it's the way you tell 'em...



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

June 21st	July 26th
August 23rd	September 27th
October 25th	November 22nd

...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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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month the members took to the road. On May 10th we had our annual trip to Felixstowe, once again making "The Hut" our base. The previous few days we had been enjoying the sunshine. This came to an abrupt end as we were greeted with drizzle and cloud all day which did not make the North Sea look very inviting!

Our spirits were raised on arrival with a welcome cup of coffee. We enjoyed our Fish and Chips lunch and then felt it was time to stretch our legs. Some enjoyed a walk along the front taking in the newly restored gardens whilst others walked into town for some retail therapy. Tea and cake were served at 3pm before our return journey.

Our thanks to Anice for arranging the trip and to everyone for helping out during the day.

On May 17th, our meeting day, we visited Thetford Garden Centre. After having a look round the many items for sale inside, most of us stopped for lunch enjoying the views from the conservatory. We were then fortified for more retail therapy. Most of us never learn and always buy too many plants.

This always causes the usual chaos when we leave the coach and somehow we all manage to struggle home!

Once again our thanks to Anice for arranging the trip.

Our next meeting will be on June 21st at 2.30pm at the Wesley Hall when our speaker will be Juliet Walker.

New members are always welcome.

Enquiries to Sylvia on 241 505.



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

A group of artists filled a coach to go to the Munnings Museum at Dedham on 12th May – half from our art club and half from the Risby art club. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all. Unfortunately I do not have any photographs of the trip but I know that it was very worthwhile and enjoyable. The club plan to have other outings in the future which hopefully will give us inspiration for more "masterpieces"!

Pictures this month are a watercolour landscape by John Welford, "Masks" by Josephine Hales and another landscape in acrylic by Barbara Clark.

Denise Lawrence, Club Secretary 01359 245207



THANK YOU

...for helping me find my little dog, Archie on Sunday 1st after he was attacked by a large dog at 5.30 that morning. Thank you to all the girls at the Co-op., to Steve and all at the Mace, to the Police and Gill, to jimmy, Nan and Cat at the fox, to Eddie and Lyn for ringing Radio Suffolk and to all the boys and girls who walked all around the village looking for Archie all day...and the biggest thank you to Bob at the post Office who found Archie caught up by his lead behind the garage at the bottom of his garden. Elmswell is amazing. I was born here and am very proud of the village and the people who live here.

Annie

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ELMSWELL W.I.

After welcoming everyone, Rachel reminded us to put our names down for the July outing, when we shall be sailing down the Orwell. We have been invited to Haughley W.I. garden party, 7th July, which should be enjoyable. There will also be a trip to Greenwich, 12th July, including a visit to the Cutty Sark and the Royal Observatory – all for only £27! Other events include the Federation Concert at The Apex, 15.6; craft at Jane's, 13.5, Joan's, 27.5 and Liz's, 10.6 and Scrabble at Anna's, 17.5.

During the next part of the evening, we discussed and voted on the Resolutions and chose the one which we thought should be taken up and promoted by the W.I. They had been narrowed down to two: Appropriate Care in Hospitals for People with Dementia or Avoiding Food Waste.

Sarah told us the points for and against the first one. Basically, the health of dementia patients improves more quickly if their carers are allowed to stay with them in hospital and tend to their needs. This prevents the mental and physical deterioration, which often follows a stay in hospital and also means that the N.H.S. spends less money. It has been suggested that some of the cost of carers' meals and parking could be paid. Conversely, it has been said that putting this into operation would cost too much, there is often not room for overnight stays by carers, except for a chair by the bed, and finally, some patients do not have carers. The W.I. would like to increase awareness of the needs of dementia patients in hospitals.

Siobhan informed us about the situation regarding food waste. Firstly, huge amounts of perfectly edible food (15,000,000 tons per annum) is wasted, unnecessarily, in homes and supermarkets. There is confusion about the "best before" and "use by" dates on packaging and some people automatically throw away perfectly edible food, as do supermarkets. However, some supermarkets are donating unused food to food banks and charities and we need to encourage more of them to do this. It was pointed out that the W.I. has already looked at this problem and things are gradually improving.

We voted for the first resolution.

Finally, we held our A.G.M. and heard the Treasurer's and Secretary's Reports. Rachel told us an amusing story, gave a report about past events and told us about the inspiring speaker at the A.G.M. She also appealed for more members to be active, rather than passive in our W.I. Rachel and the rest of the committee will stay the same but it would be good to have more members to help.

Rosie Collins
01359 241652



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

Our May gathering is traditionally kept for the Annual Meeting and discussion/voting of the National Resolutions for the year. This is repeated in 6,500 W.I.'s over the country. Our two Resolutions were directed at improved access in Hospitals for Carers of patients with dementia and the avoidance of food waste and reduction of food poverty. Barbara welcomed Finuala Symonds who was to represent us at the National AGM in June and also Carol, a guest.

After all the usual business matters, the current Committee were all elected for the next year. Mary Chown agreed to take on the role of Vice President with a view to shadowing Barbara and hopefully taking on the Presidency next year.

Very much in our thoughts during our meeting was the sad and untimely death of Philip Blissett, our Treasurer Carol's much loved husband. Philip had helped us on many occasions and Carol and the family will be in our thoughts & prayers over the coming weeks and months.

Also with great sadness we learned of the death on the 20th April of Joan Davidson. Joan had been a loyal member of our group for many years but lately had been too poorly to attend. A large part of her life was centered around the W.I. having been a member of the Shenley branch in Hertfordshire where she had previously lived. We heard great stories of fancy dress parties and drama sketches undertaken by the Shenley ladies and I know she thoroughly enjoyed her afternoons with us. We will miss her. It hasn't been a good month !!



Joan centre front at our Christmas Afternoon Tea in December 2015

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1st June when **Glen Abassie** will be our guest speaker. Glen has been working as a courier for the **Antony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust** and will be telling us all about her work. The competition will be a "Favourite Painting or Drawing". We are always pleased to welcome guests and new members. For more details contact Barbara on 242788 or Maureen on 241033 or just turn up on the day.

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

(formerly Elmswell Millennium History Group)

Our speaker at the meeting on 12 May was Justyn Keeble BA(Hons) and his subject was "The Home Guard and the Defence of Suffolk during World War 2".

The Home Guard was formed when there was a real risk of invasion, first of all being called 'Local Defence Volunteers' the name was changed by Winston Churchill on 23 August to the 'Home Guard'. The government had expected 150,000 to volunteer but within the first month 750,000 had volunteered and by the end of June 1940 the total number was over 1 million.

The intention was that the Home Guard would delay an enemy invasion for as long as possible, to give the regular army time to form a front line from which the enemy invasion could be repelled. At their formation the Home Guard were expected to fight highly trained, well armed German troops with nothing but shotguns, air rifles, bayonets, knives or bits of gas pipe with bayonets welded on the end.

As time went on the Home Guard was eventually issued with better weapons and on 20 May 1941 their first anniversary, they were given the honour of mounting guard at Buckingham Palace. This honour was repeated on 20 May 1943.

Justyn and his son Thomas were dressed in uniform and were wearing 'ammo' boots, gaiters and over their uniforms a webbing belt, webbing pouch, a gas mask, a haversack containing rations and spare clothes, a 'battle bowler' – (a steel helmet) and a leather water bottle.

Justyn described some of the guns with which the Home Guard were issued, particularly the Lee Enfield Rifle.

To round off his talk he spoke about the use of 'Pill Boxes' – defensive structures built with holes through which weapons could be fired. Anti tank blocks were built to protect main roads. 'Nodal points' were heavily defended points in towns and villages through which main roads ran, situated at road crossings, railway lines, near airfields, etc.. Defended by the Home Guard, the objective of these sites was to 'harass, impede and delay the advance of the enemy'.

This was the first time Justyn had given this talk, which was well researched and well received.

Our next meeting will be held at the Wesley Hall on

Thursday 9 June at 7.00pm when our Annual Meeting will take place

After the AGM Brian Milner will speak on 'Six Hospitals and a Chapel' in medieval Bury' The Summer Outing will be on 14 July, when we visit the Great War Huts Project at Hawstead.

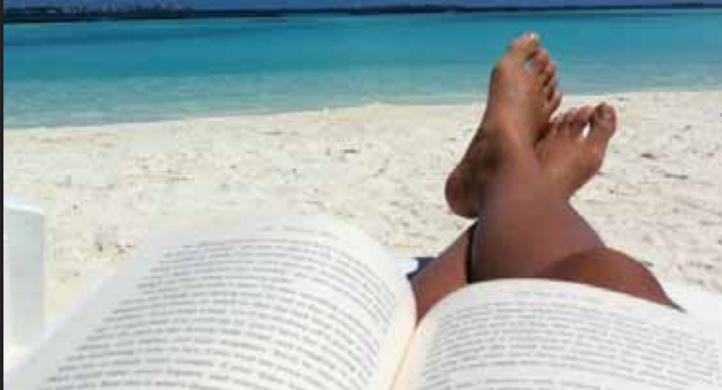
Tickets will be on sale at the June meeting.

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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ELMSWELL OVER 55's

Our recent mystery day out on May 5th was bathed in glorious sunshine as we travelled the highways and byways of Suffolk and into Norfolk to arrive at the Highway Garden Centre at Framlingham Piggott for a splendid carvery which had been arranged followed by time to browse the retail outlets and garden centre before continuing our journey to the coast to arrive at Lowestoft where there was free time to take in the sunshine to enjoy a cuppa or ice cream or wander up into the town.

On Thursday May 19th we welcomed Terry Adams from Norwich as our entertainer for the evening. Attendance at this meeting was

good with over 60 members present. It was an enjoyable evening listening to and joining in with a "new face" who hopefully will be back at a later date.

By the time you read this report our trip to Brick Lane will have passed. I can say that following a good trip to the east end of London where we had a Three course lunch at the theatre prior to the Show which is celebrating the Queens Birthday and included Anita Harris as a guest artist it was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. We arrived home at about 7.30pm.

Our next day out is to the Hut at Felixstowe on July 25th. Bookings and Fish Menus will be taken on June 16th when Alan Jewell is booked to play

us a visit, to be followed on June 30th by our Strawberry Supper.

On Thursday July 14th we welcome St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir who will be performing in the Jubilee Hall. Look out for further details in next month's newsletter. This evening is open to the public and we already have enquiries for tickets from several people from around the district (It is advertised on semvc website.) Please contact me or any committee member for further information.



Diann (241002)

ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB



From all corners of Elmswell, Gardening Club members and guests flocked to hear Sue Robinson's talk on Gertrude Jekyll and Gertrude's collaboration with architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens. Garden lecturer Sue, offered us a glimpse into their lives together with an inspiring slideshow.

As the lights dimmed to black, Sue told us that Gertrude Jekyll, born in London in 1843, spent her childhood amidst the rural heaths and woods of Surrey. From an early age Gertrude was an accomplished painter and at 18 enrolled in the South Kensington Art School. Her artist's eye gave her a unique vision of the flow and beauty of a garden, especially in an age of formal

parterres or the open vistas of Capability Brown. Following a chance meeting with architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens, Gertrude asked him to build her a house at Munstead Wood around her existing experimental garden. This led to a lasting partnership between them. It was at Munstead she developed her ideas on colour-graded planting following sweeping curves balanced by dots of contrasting colours. These colour schemes were much influenced by J.M.W. Turner's paintings and William Morris's designs. One of many beautiful gardens designed by Lutyens and Jekyll is The Manor House at Upton Grey. It consists of a simple geometry containing pink china roses, spikes of yucca and cushions of bergenia with stachys byzantine used as edging. Dribbles of snow-in-summer hang from retaining walls. Gertrude Jekyll, in partnership with Sir Edwin Lutyens, pioneered her garden design work and, due to her dislike of travelling, created many gardens by mail order, including posting suggested seeds and plants to

clients. Even today Jekyll and Lutyens are held in high esteem by the gardening world – just see their influence at the Chelsea Flower Show.

You will have noticed that the station boxes have been emptied; summer blooms will be planted shortly. It's also your last chance to contact Nick or Brenda if you wish to open your garden for **Sunday, 17th July**, (not necessarily as a Gardening Club member) it will be great fun. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 21st June, 7.30pm, at the Blackbourne**, and members will bring their plants to swap that evening. Our June speaker will be Bryan Thurlow, with a talk on **'The Perennial Mr. Potter'** - a poignant story of a Suffolk gardener who escaped the horrors of WW1 to follow his dream of restoring an old knot garden – all told in a Suffolk accent! Well worth a visit, even as a visitor – only £3 – so come and join us. Our meetings are informal and friendly. For further information please contact **Nick Chamberlin on 242601**.

ELMSWELL LUNCHEON CLUB

On a sunny and warm May morning, members and guests of the Elmswell Luncheon Club set off for the Spring outing.

A cross-country route took them to Dunwich and the popular Flora Tea Rooms for a fish and chips lunch. Afterwards there was time for some to venture onto the beach to enjoy the sea air.

A ride through lovely country lanes took the party to the Wyevale Garden Centre at Woodbridge and the opportunity for afternoon tea with time to browse through the plants and gifts. The group returned to Elmswell with pleasant memories of the Suffolk coast, countryside and pretty villages.

The Elmswell luncheon Club meets every Monday at The Bull, Woolpit, where members enjoy excellent meals and good company. Transport is provided from and to Elmswell.

The Club is always delighted to welcome new members so, if you are 55+ and retired why not telephone one of our Committee members on 241546 or 240268 for full details.

THANK YOU

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to a Susan Williams, who found our dog Alfie after getting himself lost on a walk, and took him to the safety of a vet in Bury St Edmunds where they scanned his micro chip. We've tried to trace you to say a massive thank you, but without success. We hope you will read this note.



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LONELINESS

Part Two from Mike Friend

I wrote in the first article how I attended a workshop on loneliness.... Perhaps the hardest step is to actually turn up at a group and walk through the door, you know the fear, we have all had it. Will they all stop talking and turn to see who this two headed monster invading us is, or will someone stand up, smile and say Hi, I'm Jane/Alan welcome to our gathering come and sit here and meet us all.....

At the Workshop one of the most interesting talks was from 'Men's sheds' Although the title suggests men only it is open to all. This group have rented a workspace and equipped it (by donation and grants) with power tools. The meet 2.5 days a week and make projects for the community, like planters, a wooden cut out of a donkey for the school. They also take private commissions and although as a charity they cannot charge for their labour a donation is always offered. The talk was very moving as one of the guys described how his chronic depression was mostly relieved by the friendship attained on the work days. His depression was Black on the worst days and if he needed to escape back to his 'safe place' a 'workmate' would always walk him back with a cheery chat. I can report in this issue following on from that workshop I have contacted like minded people in Stowmarket and we are well on our way to building our own workspace. Watch out for more information or check www.smms.center

We also heard from many agencies who are there to 'signpost' (buzzword for help and direct) people to other agencies who may be able to help. NORCAS 65+ exists for residents or families and friend with a needy resident to help and assist in finding the help they may need (<http://www.phoenix-futures.org.uk/norcass-65-service>) or call 01284 766693.

I have contacted as many of the village associations that I could and asked a few basic questions, herewith their replies.

The History Group meets once a month on the 2nd Thursday evening at the Wesley Hall (while we've still got it!), and our talks are listed in the back of each newsletter, as well having a report of our previous month's meeting in our own column. This gives both our website address and my phone number,

so prospective new members can always ring me to find out more. I'm sure one of our members would be happy to visit a new villager's home to talk them through how our meetings work, and also meet them at the door on their first visit, if that's what they'd like. Folks don't have to join the group, but can attend as an occasional visitor, if that's what they prefer. Stella 01359 242601

Art

We meet every Tuesday from 9.30 to 12.30 at the Wesley Hall (for how long I have no idea as the Methodists have indicated that they will close the venue in early July. We are hoping some agreement can be reached with the church to enable us to carry on--- watch the newsletter for the latest). Annual membership fee is £5 and there is a charge of £2 per week which covers unlimited tea or coffee and plenty of biccies. I emphasise that this is a club and not a class. Each member brings their own paints and paper and chooses what they want to paint and NO-ONE decides otherwise. Members paint in a range of mediums from oils to pencil and any subject they choose.

We have about 50 members and weekly attendance is anything from 15 to 25. We hold shows every 18 months and visitors remark about the variety and standard of work on display.

New members are always welcome and are soon part of the scene. I can be reached on 01359 240166 should you want more info or arrange an introduction. John Welford

Companions

Linda Abbot started Companions 4 years ago to cater for 'those caring for someone' She said 'So many people ask the carer how is (the patient) and rarely how are YOU'. Carers are people as well and so often isolated from former friends and relations. So she started the meetings. It is an opportunity to meet, talk, drink tea or coffee, do a puzzle, even colouring in. All this and an annual outing. But now Companions is so much more to so many, people come just to have a chat not all are carers, often they arrive early and always try and stay later. It is a warm friendly group. 'There is no such thing as strangers - only friends waiting to be introduced' Many of the members are happy to collect friends and share lifts call Linda and leave a message she is warm friendly and passionate about the meetings you will be very welcome. 01359 242224

The WI

Really they need no introduction, the WI had been going so long now (1915) and is open to all women no matter what age of ability. The Elmswell WI have been meeting for 80 years. They are a large thriving WI with 50 members who meet at The Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, Elmswell at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of every month.

A lively, friendly group of ladies - all ages, shapes & sizes. It's an ideal environment to catch up with friends & make new ones. Meetings include speakers on a variety of subjects and other activities which may include outing to theatres and places of interest. The WI. is non-sectarian and non-party political and is actively involved in the social, environmental and consumer issues of the day. They welcome any ladies who think they might like to join. Rosie 01359 241652 or for the Afternoon exchange WI Barbara 01359 241033

St John's Church

St John offers many community based clubs if that is the correct description. They are a thriving group. The Rector Peter Goodrich and his lovely wife are very welcoming. Sunday services differ and a full programme is available via the church or on-line. There is also a number of young person orientated activities from birth to young adults. Other activities include coffee mornings, Ladies lunch, mens breakfasts. Contact the Rector - 01359 240512

Elmswell Baptist Church

They meet for worship at 10.30 am each Sunday. There is an All-Age service on the second Sunday of each month. The first Sunday in the month includes Communion. Ours is an open table, all who have accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and seek to serve Him as Lord are welcome to partake. Why not plan to join us one Sunday and try us out? Our services are informal with music to suit all tastes. We can always make provision for any children who come. 01359 241541

Other Groups

Elmswell Exchange Social club Sylvia 01359 241 505

Gardening Club Nick 01359 242601

Camera Club Mike 01359 241431

Library 01359 240974

Elmswheelians (bike rides) Trevor 240908

Elmswild (Lukeswood) community wood and Orchard. Mary Feeney 01359 241901

Elmswild always need people to help even a few hours a month.

Bowls. Linda 01359 242224

Golf David 01359 242796

Footpath Walks - Dick 01359 240105

Carpet Bowls Frank 01359 244591

Cricket Eileen 01359 242622

Football Shaun 01359 302808

Over 55's club Diann 01359 241002

Much of this information is available in the monthly Elmswell Newsletter, our award winning Parish Magazine. If in doubt please feel free to contact myself 01359 241699 or the Clerks office 01359 244134

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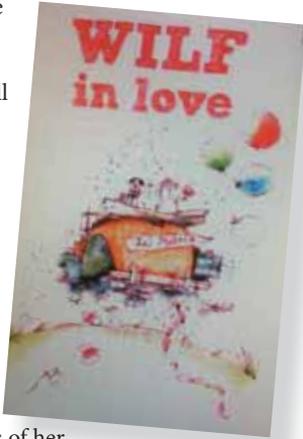




ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

We are buzzing like busy bees at Elmswell Library as summer approaches.

On Saturday, June 11th at 10:30am, village author Annie Stewart will be launching her third Wilf book in the library. She will be reading from and signing copies of Wilf In Love, which you will be able to buy for just £7.99 on the day. There will also be copies of her previous books – The Adventures of Wilf and Wilf Runs Away to purchase too. And while you are reading about Wilf's latest exploits, you will also be able to eat his favourite snack along with him, a special Wilf sausage, being launched by Elmswell Butchers on Monday, June 13th. So please come along and join in the fun.



And it won't be too long before the Summer Reading Challenge starts once more – if you remember, the scheme for children runs throughout the school holidays and encourages children to read six books over the six weeks. This year's theme is inspired by the wonderful books of Roald Dahl – The Big Friendly Read! We will have more info about signing up dates in the next newsletter but expect lots of snozzburgers, marvellous medicines, worm spaghetti and delicious chocolate in Elmswell Library this summer!

May was a really exciting month – some of our final touches are in place so the library has more displays and spaces for leaflets and information. Also, the ELF AGM went smoothly with all our officers re-standing and being voted back into position – thank you to chairman, Jimmy Jewell, treasurer, Jim King and secretary, June Pursglove for agreeing to stay with ELF for another fun-packed year!

And we had a whole host of events, especially in the first week of May, when we began by launching our Brave New Reads to readers from five different reading groups. The books are in the library and free to borrow and the overwhelming opinion is that this year's batch is a brilliant selection. Come in and take a look, there really is something for everyone. And if you want to chat about them with other readers we will be holding a Bubble and Books night at 7pm on Wednesday, July 13th – absolutely free to come along and meet other Brave New Readers.

We followed that with an excellent wine and food evening – this time it was Italian-themed. Around 40 guests joined us for an evening which started with prosecco, ended with limoncello and had quite a lot of delicious food and drink in the middle. And as an added bonus during a fabulous night we made more than £350 for ELF's coffers.



This was closely followed, the following day by a really busy Hedgehog Day, organised by Sandra Browne to raise awareness and funds for Suffolk Prickles Hedgehog Rescue. Children (of all ages) visited to find out more, take part in crafts, hear stories, sing songs and eat yummy cakes. And a £10 book voucher was awarded to Charles Sodey for his colourful hedgehog.



And finally, Elmswell Guides visited the library to take part in a Dementia Information Session. It was a superb night, the girls were really engaged, asked lots of interesting and insightful questions and genuinely seemed interested in the subject and how they could help. Both manager Emma Yarrow and all the guide leaders were incredibly impressed with how grown up they all were about a tricky and sometimes emotive topic. Well done to all of you and wear your new DF badge with pride.

Elmswell Library is open Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm and 2-7pm, Wednesday and Friday 2-5pm, Saturday 10am-1pm and Sunday 10am-3pm. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Stop Press...Stop Press...

Are you new to the village, or have you lived here a while but a change in circumstances has left you feeling isolated or out of touch?

The Keep in Touch group is starting at Elmswell Library to help people make contacts and maybe new friends.

If you don't know who's who, what's on, how to, where to go...or if you just want a chat and say hello....then come along to the library at either 11am on Tuesday, June 14th or 2:30pm on Thursday, June 16th for an hour of coffee, cake and a chat.

We look forward to seeing you



ELMSWHEELIANS 2016

Our next ride will be our first evening ride of the year - on Friday 10th June, starting as usual from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell, at 6.30 p.m.

What could be nicer than ending a busy week with a bit of exercise, exploring the beautiful Suffolk countryside on two wheels with a group of like-minded people, and enjoying a well-earned drink at the end in a local hostelry?

Distance for this ride will be in the region of 12 miles.

We cycle purely for pleasure; at a reasonable pace, but not at speed; there is nothing to pay; just turn up and you are an Elmswheelian. You will be very welcome, but must be aged 16+.

Other Rides for your diary :

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

Sunday 21st August (15 miles approx.)

Sunday 25th September (15 miles approx.)

Do come and join us.

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



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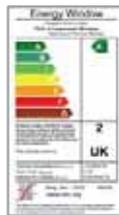
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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

Cakes and - !

Seems like the weather simply cannot make up its mind. First we get a cold snap, with frosts as bad as any during the whole of winter, then a heat wave, hotter than most mid summers, and then back again.

Those hardy folk who turned up to the walk and cake event at Lukeswood enjoyed a bright and breezy afternoon, with Street Farm Nursery putting on a very interesting display of their activities and everyone enjoying a range of cake and beverages.

Lukeswood looks like a wood and while a large number of the trees are self sown, the ones we all planted are finally beginning to make their presence felt and will now begin to catch up with their nursemaids. In the orchard the apple blossom is now in full bloom, and the meddler is about to join in, it's not been the best show of blossom, partly due to the changeable weather, but still worth seeing and perhaps come autumn there may be some fruit for us all to share.



Work to keep both Lukeswood and Kiln Meadow goes on and we have had quite a busy spring, including the first cutting of our oozy bed, and you should take a look at how the willows are reacting! It is possible that we will have 8 to 10 foot rods available for anyone

interested in weaving. We can always make use of extra hands, and there'd be a warm welcome for anyone interested in helping with any of our activities, even coffee and cake – or perhaps tea and biscuits!

Mary Feeney info@elmswild.org.uk



It's that time of the year when, please, if you have a hedge which grows out on to the pavement, please check that it is cut back so as not to get in the way of pedestrians. It can be awkward for older people, for prams, pushchairs and wheelchair users.



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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!

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" Galatians 5:22-23. These are the words we're looking at on Sunday mornings in May and June - please join us. Everyone is always welcome.

In addition to our regular Sunday Services, Bible Study Groups and Prayer Meetings, we have lots of other events.

CYFA is our youth group. The teenagers meet most Sunday evenings to discuss relevant and important issues. They also play games, socialise, eat cakes and drink hot chocolate :)

During May, the ladies had a 'card-making social'. It was a really fun evening! Some of the hand-made cards will be sold over the next few weeks to raise money for our recently installed church heaters (note: church will be extra toasty warm this winter). We also organise regular ladies lunches, with interesting speakers and delicious food.

Our men can enjoy the Men's Breakfast - the next one is Saturday 4th June, 8:30am. The chaps meet at the church to enjoy a full English and listen to the guest speaker. In June, Rev. Malcolm Rogers, the vicar of St Mary's, Bury St Edmunds, will be enjoying this meal and sharing his thoughts.

And a date for your diary: Our Summer Fair = 12:00-3:00pm Saturday 2nd July 2016 at the Wesley Hall.

Details of all of our events can be found on our website - please do take a look - or give us a call.

Sunday 5th June

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

Sunday 12th June (Friends of St John's Sunday)

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10:30am Parish Praise

Sunday 19th June

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th June

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

Sunday 3rd July

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

The Friends of St John's Church

Our next event will be on Sunday 12 June when we hold our Friends' Annual Service; Catherine Joughin will be the Speaker. The service is at 10.30am in St John's Church and will be followed by a free light lunch.

Then on 16, 17 and 18 July we will be holding a Flower Festival - 'A Feast of Flowers', with the church being open from 2pm to 5pm each day. Refreshments will be available.

J Folkard tel: 01359 242099

Christians Together in Elmswell

Our Pentecost service was held on Sunday 15 May in St John's Church. It was good to share this time together. The offering of £60 has been sent to Christian Aid.

Preparations are in hand for The Children's Holiday Club with leaders Ian and Elaine Coules. The Club starts on 15 August. See adverts around the village.

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. By doing so you can celebrate an anniversary, a birthday, or any other personal event / 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.

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08	anon
15	anon
16	anon
22	anon
29	anon

JUNE 2016 SPONSORSHIPS

1	remembering Amy Pleasance, a dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma, on her Birthday.
2	anon.
8	Lesley Manning. Remembering you on your Birthday. Love Colin. XX.

11 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.

17 in loving memory of my dear husband, Thomas Robertson.

18 Congratulations Sarah Kelly FdSc RVN. Now you will really be "living the dream!"

19 Happy 21st Birthday Sarah Kelly. Love Mum, Dad, Alex, Georgina, Oliver and all your family and friends.

19 in memory of Dorothy May Bloomfield.

19 John Bennington. "Always in our thoughts, especially on Father's Day". Love, all the family.

23 Hopper. 15.08.1950 - 23.06.1976. Remembering my dear twin brother, David, who was killed 40 years ago today while serving in the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment. "Always remembered". Sally & Alan.

25 Congratulations and love to Linda and Michael on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Mum x. Gill x. Louise x.

28 Tony & Cindy Redit. Wedding Anniversary.

All bookings and payments please to :- Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)

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Holy Days

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in the weekly Newsletter and on the new Parish Website www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

Father David Finegan

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

You've probably seen that Bungay are having problems with peacocks wandering about the town and disturbing people with their loud mating calls. Makes a change from people moving to the country and then complaining about farmyard smells or people moving near to a church and then complaining about the bells!

ELMSWELL FELLOWSHIP



At a recent service Stephen's talk was based on the familiar story of the Good Samaritan which was also featured on the recent TV programme about Paul O'Grady's experience with the Salvation Army. The Bible has much to say about how we should treat our neighbours, who Jesus pointed out through the Good Samaritan story, are not just those who live next door or who are from the same background as us. We all need to examine our attitudes to those in need all around the world.

Our activities in the next few weeks are:-

By the time you read this it could well be that the Ladies Friendship Group will have finished their programme before the summer break with a meal at The Bunbury Arms in Great Barton along with some of the men folk. They do not meet in July or August so the next meeting will be on September 5th when Flory Heller will be reminiscing about her holiday in New Zealand. Phone Margaret on 241541 for more information. ALL ladies are welcome.

Food & Friends on Thursday June 9th at midday - for the older folk - a chance to meet other people and enjoy a nutritious meal at nominal cost. This is run in conjunction with Age UK. We do have room for some new folk as, sadly, a few of our regulars have passed on. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place.

There will be the final planning meeting for the Holiday Club on Monday June 20th at 7.30pm in the chapel. Do come along if you think you might like to be involved, we've already had some children sign up!

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

June 5th Stephen Spurgeon (inc Communion)

June 12th Stephen Spurgeon - All-Age

June 19th Carole Almond

June 26th John Sargeant

July 3rd Rev. Barbara Challis (inc Communion)

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

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

Tony



STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

VAN BURGERS OFF

The 'Flame Grill' catering van which has been operating from Station Road adjacent to the station has ceased trading and the operator banned from running a food enterprise for 3 years following serious breaches of food hygiene regulations. The van was moved, briefly, to 4Paws Pet Foods car park in response to a formal notice requiring removal from the highway and has since been removed completely in line with a second statutory notice.

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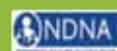
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Sticky Leaf Buds



New Green Leaf



Woodland Flowers



Lichen covered twig



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- A piece of wood similar size to a biscuit.
- Using a hand drill, you will need to make a hole.
- Decorate your medal using pens, glitter and paint.
- Thread some ribbon or string through the hole.

Woodland Word search



B	G	L	F	E	A	T	H	E	R	M	S
L	I	A	B	C	U	R	X	E	I	O	U
O	D	R	E	H	W	E	P	S	S	S	M
S	B	L	D	W	L	E	A	V	E	S	J
S	D	C	T	S	F	B	G	S	D	A	N
O	W	H	W	E	H	E	W	T	F	D	F
M	H	T	F	O	X	O	H	I	H	G	H
O	K	N	D	Y	O	Q	B	B	L	J	B
A	W	P	E	B	B	L	E	B	R	K	V
T	A	H	E	U	P	H	A	A	C	L	I
W	S	T	R	O	L	S	G	R	A	S	S
F	M	J	A	F	S	A	S	A	B	U	A

Can you find the following words;

Feather Leaves Grass Moss Blossom
Pebble Fox Deer Rabbit Birds Tree

How do trees get on the internet?

They log in!!

Why do bees hum?

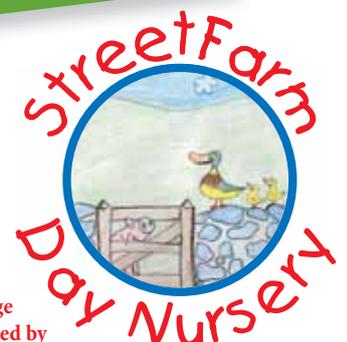
Because they don't know the words!!

What did the tree wear to the pool party?

Swimming Trunks!!

Why did the fly never land on the computer?

He was afraid of the world wide web!!



This page sponsored by

ELMSWELL AUTUMN FAYRE



Over the past 25 years, the Fayre would be pretty much all set up by this time of the year and would just require a little fine tuning. This year, however, there is nothing to do but inform anyone who doesn't already know, that there will be no Fayre at all. I have informed most of those who are usually part of the Fayre but I am certain to have overlooked one or two.

Many of those that I informed were kind enough to send a very complimentary reply and, since I don't have a lot more to say on the subject, I thought I would include some of the very kind comments that I received.

I am sorry to hear that you have decided to hang up your fleecy jacket, but quite appreciate how much time and effort you all must put into organising such an event.

We always enjoyed coming to Elmswell - yours was one of the better Fayres around - and will have no hesitation in coming back and fill your shoes.

Thanks for letting me know and I wish you a well earned rest.

Very best wishes



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*That's a shame!
Was a good
day with all the
village there!*

*Yes you have been working
hard at it for a lot of years,
time to take a Step back now..
And let someone else take
over..Hope you keep well..*

*We are sorry that the Fayre is no more, but
completely understand!
You were one of our first shows when we set
our business up all those years ago and we
would like to thank you for your continued
support over the years.
We wish you well in the future.*

*Many thanks to all those who
helped with any of the Fayres
and to all who came along to
support them. Many people
made enormous contributions
over the years and we had many
very generous sponsors and
organisers who all put in a great
deal of effort for the community .
I won't attempt to list everybody
for fear of missing someone out,
but suffice it to
say that we have
made a little bit
of history which
many folk will
remember for a
long, long time.*



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Village Café

★ You are all invited to afternoon tea
★ to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday
★ on Saturday 11th June at the Wesley Hall ★
★ from 1.30 - 4.30pm ★

Tea, coffee, home-made cakes, music & more

★ ★
★ Children's fancy dress competition: ★ ★
★ Age 0-7: Come as a Disney character ★ ★
★ Age 7+: A Royal or Red, white and blue theme ★ ★
★ ★ ★

Please contact:
Stephanie Lester 241327
Carol Blissett 242884
Lesley Reed 241009



Everyone welcome We hope to see you there



ELMSWELL BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Thank you to all those involved in organising our recent trip to Hollow Trees everyone had a lovely time seeing the animals, playing on tractors, climbing mud slopes, picnicking and building sandcastles. The adults even let the children join in!

We have two further trips organised so far for the summer; the first is a trip to the local fire station in Elmswell. We are very lucky to have the opportunity for a second year running to look around the station, ask questions, sit in the fire engine and, if the sun is shining, play with the hoses. It was a thoroughly enjoyable visit last year and the Firemen delighted in having our little ones visit them. A certain Chairman will be banned from using the hoses this time due to the soaking she gave my poor daughter and more importantly, attempted to give me! Our visit takes place on 4th July 2016; we are meeting at the hall as normal at 10:00 and will have a teddy bear's picnic afterwards, so don't forget your lunch and favourite teddy bear.

Our second trip is to Dinosaur Adventure Park on the 15th August, meeting in the attraction's car park at 10:15. The Baby & Toddler Group is helping with the funding of this trip by paying for one parent and one child who are regular attendees of group. Other family members are welcome, but they will have to pay; Donna has arranged a large group discounted price. Please see her at group for details on costs and to sign up. Have a look at the website www.dinosauradventure.co.uk to see what a fantastic place this looks. Please bring a change of clothes and towel if your child plans to go in the splash area!

We are able to help with the costs of trips like this due to the success of our Nearly New Sales, so make sure you pencil in 29th September 2016 on your calendar for our next one!

In the meantime we continue to run 10:00 to 11:30 every Monday and Wednesday at Wesley Hall, so please feel free to come along any time.



ELMSWELL BROWNIES HAVE HAD A BUSY TERM!

We have been working towards completing a challenge badge, based around the theme of the Queen's 90th birthday. The girls all created a card which we have forwarded to the Queen at Buckingham Palace and we are now eagerly awaiting a response.

The council asked for youth groups or schools to take part in the Great Suffolk Wellie hunt, as a result wellies have been collected from around the village and the girls enjoyed decorating them and planting flowers in them to give them a new lease of life! They do look brilliant!

The wellies will be on display with about another 300 at the Suffolk Show at the start of June. They will then be auctioned off for charity. Many thanks go to the many donations of the wellies we received and also to Bury St Edmunds B&Q who kindly donated the flowers and stones which are being used to weigh down the wellies!



Following the theme of royalty the girls enjoyed making towers from old kitchen rolls, they have decorated these and will be using them next term as part of their hostess badge. They have also enjoyed making brooches, these were made from felt and now the girls uniforms can be seen proudly displaying their creations!

Next week will see the girls go on a trip out to Nowton Park for some bug hunting and Den building! Let's hope the weather stays ok!

Next half term features Fathers Day craft & card making, some first aid practice, and the girls will be inviting a friend along to brownies so that they can complete their hostess badge, whilst also showing their friends what fun can be had in brownies!

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!



FRESCH

Last month the FRESCH team were busy planning, preparing and hosting the spring school disco! One of the team came up with the great idea of a photo booth for the KS2 children which looked fab and seemed to be a big hit judging by the queue!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Andrew Doherty at Tesco for all the hot dogs that were devoured! We would also like to say a big thank you to our mini FRESCH team who ran the tuck shop for us, they never seem to get flustered even with up to 100 children all wanting packets of Haribo at the same time!

Our last thank you is to Alan at Wells Stitched who helped us enormously with our fab new aprons (as seen on mini FRESCH!), we're really pleased with them!

The next big event is the Summer Fair on Friday the 8th of July at 5.30pm! If you can help in any way please email us or leave a message with the school, we're always looking for helpers, dads to sponge, cakes for the cafe, bottles of booze (for the competition not us!) teddies for the tombola and raffle prizes!!! **The FRESCH Team** - fresch.elmswell@yahoo.co.uk





ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group met on 10th May to discuss the factors which might affect the designation of development sites around the development boundary of the village which was set in the 1998 Local Plan. Mid Suffolk have asked any landowners who might propose developing such land to register their interest, but those, 'Call for Sites' approaches have not yet been made public. Meanwhile Mid Suffolk are making their own assessment as to the viability of these broad outline proposals and this will be published, including public consultation, in due course.

Without the benefit of this information, the Neighbourhood Plan must establish its own hierarchy of factors which will allow the identification of the most appropriate areas to take the development which would seem to be inevitable in the 25 years which the Plan will cover. Accordingly, with the benefit of a large scale map of the Plan area, discussion ranged around issues of sustainability, access, and visual impact as well as an awareness of the scheduled flood plain information and other defined matters such as protected open space, trees and listed buildings.

Ian Poole, the Neighbourhood Plan consultant working with such groups on behalf of Mid Suffolk, has undertaken to record the various options discussed on the map and to attend the next meeting, in June, to advise on the assessment format within which specific sites can be considered objectively.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Mid Suffolk have since arranged a community consultation event, 'Building a Sustainable future,' as the first steps in their assessment of appropriate growth parameters for Elmswell – see page 29.

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

FACEBOOK



WEBSITE



Village Café to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday



You are all invited to a Village Café at the Wesley Hall on Saturday 11 June for afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, from 1.30 until 4.30 pm. Drop in for tea, coffee and fresh home-made cakes (including gluten free) to enjoy at a small charge, but free to any young person aged 89 or over.

For the children, Stephanie will host a fancy dress competition, the categories being 0-7 a Disney character, 7+ Regal and/or Red, White and Blue. No need to enter beforehand, just come along on the day in your lovely costumes. Judging will take place a little after 3.45 pm.

Music and a quiz sheet to complete.

The Wesley hall is always such a good venue for Village Cafes, so please come along, and bring your friends and family to be part of this inclusive and relaxing community event.

Date:	Saturday 11th June
Event:	Village Café
Occasion:	Queen's 90th birthday
Venue:	Wesley Hall
Time:	1.30 - 4.30 pm
Master of Ceremonies:	You will know him immediately!
Special Guest:	We hardly dare hope!

Please contact:
Stephanie Lester : 01359 241327
Carol Blissett: 01359 242884
Lesley Reed: 01359 241009





ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

Bowls Club's June column for the Elmswell Newsletter



A little about the game and how it is organised and played

The Club plays in competitions with a number of mid-Suffolk Clubs; in leagues in the Mid-Suffolk League and Bury St Edmunds League, and these are held mainly in the evening throughout the summer. There is also a Tuesday afternoon League, in which the Club tends to prepare its newer members before they are asked to play for one of the evening games; by giving them match-play experience. There is no better way to learn and gain experience than playing the game, in the field.

Matches take place on Monday through Thursday evenings, starting at 6:30/6:45. The Club usually plays each of the Clubs in the league, at home and away, during the season and each evening usually finishes with refreshments and a social exchange about the game. The Club has 3 teams in play on each of the evening matches and 2 teams on a Tuesday afternoon. A captain leads each match and administers both the Bowls play and the organisation of the teams.

Following the appalling conditions in the opening month, the weather has settled a little, although we have had to endure rain in some of the events held including round-ups and matches. Games are not cancelled but played in all weather.

Our new members (Newbies '16) have settled down well and are continuing their practice on Saturday mornings and are learning fast; to congratulations from the rest of the members.

Club members meet on a Saturday afternoon for various events: 'Round-ups' (practice sessions), a Club Drive or a Club Match. During the season members compete for singles, doubles and mixed events and Trophies and Cups are awarded and presented at the Club's Annual Dinner in November.



The Wednesday evening Team tops their League

The Club has started the season well and is playing good Bowls, at both Home and Away: The Club sits as follows in the various leagues in which they play:

Stowmarket & District League 3 (Monday evening)			
9 May	Rookery 'B'	Home	Lost: 57 - 89
16 May	Earl Stonham	Away	Won: 78 - 68
23 May	Needham Market 'B'	Away	Lost: 67 - 80

Stowmarket & District League 3 (Tuesday afternoon)			
26 April		Bye	
3 May	Stanton 'B'	Home	Won: 78 - 64
10 May	St Botolph's 'C'	Away	Lost: 67 - 80
17 May	Thornham Magna	Away	Won: 25 - 24
24 May	Haughley 'B'	Home	Won: 37 - 25

Stowmarket & District League 3 (Tuesday Evening)			
26 April			
3 May	Old Newton	Home	Lost: 31 - 65
10 May	West Row	Away	Lost: 26 - 40
17 May	?	?	?
24 May	?	?	?

Wednesday Triple League (evenings)			
27 April	Wortham	Away	
4 May	Bildeston	Home	Won: 78 - 64
11 May	Old Newton	Home	Won: 67 - 80
18 May	Thornham Magna	Away	?
25 May	Walsham Le Willows	Home	Won: 36 - 24

EBC team tops Division 3 of the BURY & DISTRICT BOWLS LEAGUE having won all 5 matches played so far this season:

I will try and get the hang of recording and compiling these reports, in this format, by next month! (Errors & Omissions excepted, E&OE) **Trevor Clarke** 25-May-16

Thursday Bury & District Bowls League (evenings)			
20 April	Hopton		Won: ?
27 April	Hengrave 'B'		Won: 88 - 59
4 May	St Botolph's 'B'		Won: 75 - 67
11 May	British Sugar		Won: 87 - 51
18 May	Risbygate 'B'		Won: 82 - 47
25 May	n/a until next month		



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ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

We have made a strong start to our campaign in Division 5 of the Suffolk Cricket League, winning two out of three matches. Results and forthcoming fixtures can be found below.

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.

Call: Ian on 01359 244139
Email: elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com
Twitter: @elmswellcricket
Web: www.elmswellcricketclub.co.uk

Results:

Sun 8th May

Elmswell 113 all out
G.Stannard 47
N.Greathead 18

Tendring Park 109 all out

N.Greathead 5-11
G.Stannard 3-25

Sun 15th May

Elmswell 237 for 8
B. Whatling 71
N.Greathead 40

Twinstead 158 for 6

N.Greathead 3-28
J.Garrard 2-28

Sun 22nd May

Great Cornard 128 all out

J.Garrard 4-21

M.Moss 4-23

Elmswell 95 all out

T.Haynes 30

B. Whatling 15

June Fixtures

Sun 12th Milden (H)

Wed 15th Stowmarket (A)

Sun 19th Old Newton (A)

Wed 22nd Old Newton (H)

Sun 26th Tendring Park (A)

Wed 29th Stowupland (H)



NEW ELMSWELL POOL RANKING LEAGUE

Alan Wells has been officially ranked No1 amongst some 33 of Elmswell's regular pool players who, tired of the single-frame match set-up, have recently registered for a pool league with a difference. Each player plays as an individual, playing the same opponent to the best of 7 frames within a 2 week period. Matches are played by agreement at either the Fox or the Railway Tavern. There are 4 leagues with a 2-up and 2-down promotion and relegation.

Both landlords seem extremely pleased with the first season, as players are organising their matches mainly on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights when trade is, traditionally, quieter.

New players are welcome and should contact Bob Durrant, the League Organiser, on 07776 236261.

Pictured here are the 4 league winners, from left to right; Simon Christie from division 3, Bunny Nunn of division 2, Alan Wells who plays in division 1 and Trevor Conway representing the best of division 4.



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FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

BLACKBOURNE ACCOUNTING

The running of Blackbourne is entirely managed by the Blackbourne Management Association – the BMA. It meets monthly to discuss the everyday issues involved in keeping the increasingly busy community facilities open and viable. It suggests to the Parish Council, the owners on the village's behalf, what needs to be done or what could be done to both maintain the high standards now set and expected whilst keeping pace with changing and increasing demands.

The Association comprises 8 representatives of Blackbourne user groups, 3 Parish Councillors and 2 elected members. It sets the letting fees and passes all income generated over to the Council which is responsible for all expenditure. The bookings, across 5 letting venues, are handled by the Parish Clerk's office.



This arrangement has one enormous advantage. Because the facilities are clearly and properly managed by a stand-alone body they enjoy Mid Suffolk's discretionary waiving of the Business Rates which would be due if the Blackbourne was managed by the Parish Council – a 'precepting authority'. The saving to the village last year was £14,000.00.

As 2 separate bodies the accounts of the BMA and the Parish Council never meet. Every penny that the BMA draws in from lettings is passed on to the Council. Every penny spent on Blackbourne is a democratic decision of the Council and widely published. However, as the enterprise has grown to an annual turnover of £25,000.00+ it was thought that it might be instructive to try to produce a 'profit & loss' account for Blackbourne.

Nick Brooks, the BMA volunteer who acts as Treasurer, is a skilled and experienced practitioner of the dark arts of accountancy. He has worked with the Clerk's office to produce the following chart of accounts for the last financial year. Estimates had to be made, for example on the amount of time spent by the Clerk's office on processing the bookings, which time is paid for by the Council. Similarly, an allowance is made for the fact that the caretaker has responsibilities at Crown Mill. No account is taken of, 'accruals', such as deposits paid in advance, money owed or the vagaries of the utilities bills which are invariably out of step with the financial year. Nevertheless, assuming the commonly accepted, 'swings and roundabouts' in such circumstances, the result shows a fair picture which will, henceforward, be produced year-on-year for comparison.

Income			
Lettings	24,498.50		
Greens maintenance repay (a)	412.80		
Green energy rebate (b)	6,583.05		
Total income	31,494.35		
Expenditure			
Janitorial supplies	350.54	Electricity – halls	3,448.26
Maintenance grounds	2,754.01	Electricity – bowls	125.30
Maintenance halls general	5,380.29	Gas bowls (c)	(112.87)
Maintenance bowls	1,349.86	Licenses	723.18
Maintenance cricket	845.58	Insurance	3,509.65
Maintenance halls cyclical	1,226.00	Secretarial	2,400.00
Caretaker	4,643.68	Loan interest	4,123.43
Water rates	742.41	Total expenditure	31,913.02
Broadband	403.90		
		Net profit / (loss)	(418.67)

- (a) The sports clubs have an annual allowance against the consumables they need to maintain the playing areas which they maintain on Council's behalf. If this is exceeded, a rebate is due.
- (b) From the Feed Input Tariff (solar panels) + Renewable Heat Incentive (ground source heat pump)
- (c) Historical overpayment currently being clawed back

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

NOTICE OF VACANCY IN OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR

PARISH OF ELMSWELL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

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

If by 9 June 2016 (14 working days after the date of this notice) a request for an election to fill said vacancy is made in writing to the Returning Officer at Mid Suffolk District Council, 131 High Street, Needham Market, IP6 8DL, by TEN electors for the said Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

If an election is called, it will take place not later than 11 August 2016.

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

Dated: 19 May 2016

Proper Officer

YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cllr Mike Friend

A Casual Vacancy was caused by the resignation from the Parish council of Cllr Helen Gunby, who no longer lives in the village.

The following electors requisitioned a Poll from Mid Suffolk:

Council: Lesley Reed, Stephen Harrison, Brian Hawes, Julie Hawes, David Peachey, Eileen Brooks, Beverley Winters, Michael Mulley, Edwin Barber, Ian Tullett.

The Poll was duly posted and postal voting cards were issued.

Only one candidate came forward, Mike Friend, who is duly elected unopposed.

Mike has served on the Council for 4 years until 2015. He has since continued his involvement in drawing up a 'Resilience Plan' for the village, working towards a street plan / footpath map for public display, acting as the Council's Transport Officer, as the Station Adopter for Elmswell Station and, on behalf of the First Responders, by maintaining the defibrillator at Blackbourne.



Your councillors are:

			<u>posts</u>	<u>committees</u>	
				Planning	Complaints
Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Footpath Officer Blackbourne Management Association	✓	✓
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640 07860 395720	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk	Vice chair Planning Committee	✓	✓
Mike Friend 22 Mill Gardens ELMSWELL IP30 9DL	01359 241699	mike.friend@easidoor.co.uk	Transport Officer Elmswell Amenities Association		✓
Stephen Harrison 1 Manns Court Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BZ	01359 245223	steveandlyn@hotmail.com		✓	
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk		✓	
Fred Pallett Maple House New Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BT	01359 244144 07771 962441	fjp@oilgasassociates.com	Chairman of Council Chairman of Planning Committee	✓	✓
Shaun Pratt Wrinlow Spong Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9 DX	07813 302808	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com	Vice chairman of Council	✓	✓
Lesley Reed Second Thoughts Church Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DY	01359 241009	lesley@reed.org		✓	✓
Julia Taber 4 School Avenue ELMSWELL IP30 9EH	07921 882206	juliataber4@icloud.com		✓	✓
Chris Wiley 28 Gardener's Walk ELMSWELL IP30 9 ET	07544 762448	chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk	Blackbourne Management Association	✓	

REPORTS TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Council Meeting, which the law requires must be held in May, includes reports on the previous year's activities from various officers, representatives and organisations. These can provide a useful yearly snapshot of some of the activities in which the Parish Council has an interest. There is scope later on in the meeting for Councillors and the public to question anything in the reports and the Clerk will always pass on comments and queries if the author is not present with a subsequent report back to Council if appropriate.

Chairman's Annual Report to the Annual Meeting of Council on 16th May 2016

Having, as a member of the public, seen the previous long term Chairman, David Barker, in action I knew that he would be a hard act to follow.

So it proved, and I was asked to take up the reins of office after 3 months of this administration when so many things seemed to be going in an unproductive direction. I hope that the faith which was put in the proposal for my election is justified. My experience in business administration, negotiation and 'people management' has, I trust, stood me in good stead. I am grateful to colleagues and to our Parish Clerk for allowing a gentle introduction in areas where my experience was less than comprehensive - notably Local Government law, practices and procedures and the convolutions of the current village politics. I have learned fast and continue to do so.

Council is now, once again, in a very healthy state with another clean bill of health from an extremely thorough Internal Audit which followed on from a similar endorsement of our finance, practices and procedures carried out by myself and Cllr Brian Hawes as Vice chairman.

The bigger issues of the Bacon Factory development, the potential acquisition for the community of the Wesley facilities and the Neighbourhood Plan all seem to be the subject of good management with Council as a key player. Smaller issues regarding day-to-day administration are handled efficiently and properly with The Blackbourne now settled in what is likely to be its final manifestation representing a jewel in the community crown and likely to repay recently dedicated effort and resources over many years.

We recently lost the services of Cllr Helen Gunby who, having moved away from the village, felt that she should resign for personal reasons, and welcome in her stead Cllr Mike Friend who has previously served and whose considerable community efforts have continued unabated during his brief time out of office.

Council is well placed to face the challenges of the 'bigger issues', as above. Looming large are the threat from aggressive developers emboldened by Central Government Planning initiatives together with the reduced ability of the District and County Councils to lend support in the face of diminished Government funding. I have seen enough of Elmswell Parish Council in action to suggest that we shall continue to represent our community competently and successfully and I urge fellow Councillors to work towards a united front against these threats.

Fred Pallett - 12.05.16

Report From The Elmswell Village Recorder to the Annual Meeting of The Elmswell Parish Council 2016

Working with the Elmswell history group I am keen to pass on the recorder role and to encourage new blood into the important process of ensuring that the future has adequate points of reference to the past. The post is advertised, but I shall continue in a holding capacity as necessary.

Report from the Village Recorder

In a digital age there are fewer sources of record that need to be physically captured and stored - particularly in Elmswell where the Newsletter does an exemplary job in chronicling the month by month activities and events. I continue to ensure that the magazines are lodged with the County Records Office.

I am keen to have the records, both those which are held and those which will be subsequently generated, digitised and would suggest that this might be one of the new directions taken by my eventual successor.

I would hope to be able to make a contribution to the naming of the roads on the new Bacon Factory estate where the 'history' is relatively recent but very significant in the shaping of our community.

I commend the Council for continuing to support the formal 'recording' process. Not all communities are similarly supported.

Maureen Dow

Report for Annual Parish Council meeting 16/5/16

I continue to be a member of the West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group's (WSCCG) Health Forum. As I have mentioned before, this is a group that is open to anyone living in West Suffolk who is interested in health, health care and related issues. Members receive news and updates about health and community matters and from time to time are offered the opportunity to attend focus groups, participate in surveys and attend events.

Anyone interested in joining the forum should either phone 01284 774811 or email getinvolved@westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk. Our CCG is also on Facebook: West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group.

I was very pleased that WSCCG recently held a big training event at the Blackbourne. Let's hope they start to use the venue on a regular basis.

It will be of interest to some residents that in future they will be able to get replacement hearing aid batteries at Woolpit Health Centre, rather than having to travel to obtain them from the Audiology Department of West Suffolk Hospital.

Ann Richards

Elmswell Footpath Officer report

My monthly walks continue come rain or shine and the weather seems not to have too much of an effect on numbers - a poor day can often bring out more walkers than a pleasant one. Generally speaking, attendance is up and we continue to make new friends attracted by word of mouth and by the regular advertisement in the Newsletter.

I was pleased that the Elmswell Amenities Association took on the payment of the fee allowing us, with the agreement and co-operation of the owner, access to the former set-aside land at Mutton Hall where the change in Government policy meant that the walks there could no longer be made available to the general public free of charge. This allows us to retain some of our most interesting circular routes to the East of the village.

My thanks go to Alan Wells who continues to make our biggest walk of the year, on New Year's Day, even more special with his half-way-stage refreshments.

The walks continue to be open to all comers and have proved time and time again to be a 'way in' to the community for new residents. I think Elmswell Parish Council deserves commendation for continuing to support them.

Cllr Dick Burch



Elmswell Parish Council Planning Committee Chairman's report to Annual Meeting of Council 16.05.16

The Planning Committee has met 6 times during the year to discuss applications which have justified a meeting and required a response beyond the timetable of full Council meetings when Planning matters and applications are routinely discussed.

Significant issues dealt with have included:

The question of the minimisation of risk at the Hawk End Lane un gated level crossing as part of the Reserved Matters required in the outline permission for residential development at the Bacon Factory. This was the subject of a public 'drop in' exhibition and consultation held in 16th July the results of which were reflected in Council's support for the diversion of the footpath North of the line to the Parnell Lane Underbridge.

Two separate attempts to develop the Wesley site on School Road, both of which were successfully rejected on the grounds that the registration as an Asset of Community Value is a material Planning consideration which precludes such development.

Reserved matters appended to the Permission for the building of up to 190 dwellings on the Bacon Factory site on which concessions were secured with regard to dwellings fronting Ashfield Road and an increase in the number of bungalows.

By all accounts, including from our Ward members at Mid Suffolk, Elmswell deals efficiently and effectively when consulted on Planning matters and I consider that the Committee, as advised by the Clerk, has worked well on the Village's behalf throughout the year.

Cllr Fred Pallett Chairman

BMA report to EPC Annual Meeting 2016

This has been a rather eventful year starting with the appointment of two new representatives from the council, replacing former Councillor Mrs Indurain and myself after 11 years in the position. Information flow suffered somewhat as a result but BMA business carried on very much as usual.

The access roadway became a reality and instantly proved its worth and a new gate was added to secure the access to the north side of the building.

Mark Edwards, the now not-so new Caretaker, has made the job his own and taken the previously high standard of cleanliness to a new level. He has recovered from a serious illness and coped well with the increasing demand on the facility.

The Chamberlayne hall walls have been painted to about the halfway point and much improved the general appearance of the room giving it a lighter and brighter ambience. Stocks of chairs and tables have been augmented so that both old and new sections of the facility are fully self-sufficient for all but the very exceptional bookings.

The addition of the Meeting Room has proved to be a more rewarding initiative than had been envisaged. The new storage area and the disabled access corridor are very much appreciated by hirers, especially Slimming World, Ju jutsu, Over 55's and the WI..

Treasurer, Mr Brooks, declared a turn-over of £24.5K which, although a little down on last year, is considerably higher than the £19K projected at the beginning of the year which started exceptionally slowly. The ups-and-downs of income must be viewed with an informed eye given the essentially retail nature of the operation ie a lot depends on the public who are not predictable year-on-year. Also, there are the swings-and-roundabouts of deposits paid in advance and late payments of balances which would require a complex system of accrual accounting to iron out anomalies. Month on month we are well ahead this year, but, see above, projections are unreliable.

We have passed £18.6K over to the EPC during the year and now transfer £1000 each and every month.

Although the long-standing accounting system complied with all required criteria, it has been up-graded so that bookings can now be followed through from the diary through to booking confirmation, invoices, payments & bankings enabling the full paper trail to be more easily accessed. The Parish Council had suggested that a 'Profit & Loss' account for the facility would be beneficial, marrying the 2 distinct sets of accounts. There was some delay in working towards this as it was, originally, an EPC initiative which never materialised. Under the circumstances the BMA took it on and Nick Brooks, our Treasurer, has been given access to Council accounting software so that Blackbourne expenditures are now the subject of a separate and automatic posting process. He has, moreover, worked retrospectively to produce a full year's figures, appended to this report. We are very grateful for the high level of skill and commitment that Nick continues to bring to his position as Treasurer.

Peter Edmonds, Secretary, BMA

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Over the next 15 years our two districts will be building large numbers of homes in response to a growing population combining with factors such as increased life expectancy and smaller households driving demand. To ensure all residents understand the opportunities this housing growth offers, the district councils will be opening up the conversation on growth to the public under the title '**Building a Sustainable Future**', including coming to Elmswell at The Blackbourne on the 8th June.

As well as Elmswell's event, Building a Sustainable Future events will be held throughout the districts through June and early July, which will be open to all residents to drop in and talk with officers about how the councils' Growth Agenda can be delivered while preserving the unique character and identities of Babergh and Mid Suffolk. There will also be the opportunity to discuss the positive impact new housing will have on economic growth, job opportunities, the sustainability of local services and infrastructure.

Elmswell's 'Building a Sustainable Future' event will be a drop-in session open from 3pm until 7pm on Wednesday 8th June at The Blackbourne and everyone in the area is encouraged to come along and put their questions about growth to Mid Suffolk officers.

You can keep an eye on Mid Suffolk's website and social media, where more details will follow soon.

WEDNESDAY 8th JUNE AT BLACKBOURNE
3pm – 7pm • ALL WELCOME



**SUFFOLK
CONSTABULARY**
Police station, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket Suffolk.
Tel: 101 (Always dial 999 in an emergency)

POLICE REMINDER

**DUE TO AN INCREASE IN THEFT FROM OUT BUILDINGS
ACROSS THE AREA POLICE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND
YOU TO:**

- Keep out-buildings securely locked.
- Remove items of value from view.
- Lock bicycles up even inside your out-buildings.
- Clearly mark property such as lawn mowers with your postcode and house number and keep a record of serial numbers.
- Take photos of your valuable items.

REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

**If anyone feels they would like some advice on securing
their property, please contact Stowmarket Safer
Neighbourhood Team.**

Call 101 or Email

STOWMARKET.SNT@SUFFOLK.PNN.POLICE.UK

Always call 999 in an emergency

ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - MAY REPORT

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August, at 7.30pm. The May meeting is the Annual Council Meeting – effectively the Council's AGM with an ordinary meeting tacked on to it. This year it took place at The Blackbourne on Monday 16th with 9 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel, County Council Ward Member Mrs Jane Storey, Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow, and 7 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 Steven 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 April Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Election of Chairman Cllr Fred Pallett agreed to continue in the role he took on as a newly elected councillor in January following the resignation from the Chair of Cllr Lesley Reed. His appointment was unanimously supported and, later in the meeting, he was congratulated for the way he has encouraged proper process, drawing a favourable contrast with the less balanced proceedings of the previous year's Annual Meeting.

Election of Vice chairman The incumbent, Cllr Brian Hawes, having indicated that he no longer wishes to serve, Cllr Shaun Pratt was unanimously elected to the post unopposed.

Reports The Meeting received a report from the Chairman who confirmed that, following a start to the year when things seemed to be going in an unproductive direction, Council is now once again in a very healthy state with another clean bill of health from the recent extremely thorough internal audit. Annual Reports were also received from the Council's Planning Committee, the Ward Members at Mid Suffolk District Council and Suffolk County Council, the Transport Officer, the Blackbourne Management Association, the Village Recorder, the Footpath Officer and the West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group. These reports will be reproduced in The Elmswell Newsletter and posted on the Council's web site.

Accounts The Meeting unanimously approved the accounts for the 12 months ended 31.03.16. These comprise a Balance Sheet, a report on Income and Expenditure, the Council's Assets Register and a Supporting Statement from the Council's Responsible Finance Officer (RFO). The Chairman and RFO were authorised to sign formal Approval and that the documents fairly represent the financial position of the Council within the accepted protocols and procedures laid down in the Practitioners' Guide which is published by the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks. The full document will be published on the Council's web site.

Accounting Statement The meeting unanimously approved the Accounting Statement which sets out for the Council's external auditor, Messrs BDO LLP, various elements of the year's income and expenditure together with cash and other assets laid out so as to allow comparison and to highlight year-on-year variances. This valuable auditing technique points up significant shifts in the Council's economic

activity which can then be analysed to assess whether proper practice has been followed.

The Chairman was authorised to sign the Statement off as being properly presented.

Risk assessments The Meeting unanimously approved receipt of 8 detailed risk assessments relating to the Council's assets and activities. The Chairman was, by unanimous decision, authorised to sign off a Financial Risk Assessment which details measures taken towards ensuring that mismanagement, misappropriation, unlawful activity and the possibility of the loss of administrative facility are all adequately addressed by Council.

Governance Statement The Government appointed External Auditor requires an annual assurance, signed by the Clerk and Chairman, that Council has a sound system of internal control, including 9 specific individual Statements relating to effective finance management, effective measures to prevent fraud, compliance with statute and regulation, the exercising of electors' rights, risk management and proper response to the various levels of audit. Councillors agreed unanimously that such an Assurance could and should be given.

Internal Audit Every 3 years, as a matter of good practice, Council changes the Internal Auditor who, the law requires, must be appointed to conduct a thorough examination of Council's accounts, practices and procedures. For the past 3 years this task has been undertaken by the Audit arm of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils which has given a clean bill of health across the board. This year, by Resolution of Council, Mr Trevor Brown CPFA, was instructed. Mr Brown is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Public finance & Accountancy and has many years' experience of auditing Local Council affairs, currently involved in some 70 such audits including Elmswell Parish Council. Having previously made an exploratory fact-finding visit to the Clerk's office and following on-line researches of the Council's activities, including filmed records of recent meetings, he subsequently spent 6 hours with unrestricted access to all of the accounts, files, paperwork and computer records conducting a thorough examination as defined in an Internal Audit Plan which formed part of his Terms of Reference. Compliance with statute and regulation was confirmed in all aspects and there were no issues arising requiring action.

The Audit confirmed that the Council has satisfactory internal controls in place and that the Clerk provides comprehensive financial reports to Council meetings so that Councillors are provided with information to enable them to make informed decisions.

Appointments Councillors agreed, with their kind agreement to serve, to re-appoint Cllr Burch as Footpath Officer, Maureen Dow as Village Recorder, Cllr Friend as Transport Officer and John Ibbetson as Tree Officer. Representatives of Council were also confirmed as: Poor's Land Charity, Linda Abbott; Blackbourne Management Association, Cllrs Burch, Mrs Taber & Wiley; Amenities Association, Cllr Friend; NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group, Ann Richards; Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Ann Richards.

County Council Cllr Mrs Jane Storey confirmed that she has been asked to serve as Deputy Leader of Suffolk County Council for the coming year and was duly congratulated.

District Council Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel's written report to the main meeting confirmed that progress has been made on the completion of a joint Mid Suffolk / Babergh Local Plan which defines the parameters and guidelines for Planning growth in the medium and long term future. This is to go out to consultation with Neighbourhood Plan groups in June before public consultation in July. A strategy to bring forward a 5year housing land supply is also agreed.

Clerk's report Peter Dow's monthly report included details of the ramifications of the recent ban, following prosecution for hygiene offences, imposed on the trader operating from the Flame Grill catering van at Station Road. Mid Suffolk are taking steps to have the vehicle removed. Meanwhile, the Clerk is renewing attempts to have the District Council impose a bye law to control the activities of street traders. This revives an initiative begun some years ago when the first of 3 successive operators began causing neighbourhood nuisance.

Planning results The meeting noted the following decisions made by Mid Suffolk District Council, the Planning Authority: Reference 1156/16 Demolition of a conservatory and erection of a garden room at 2, Wyatt Close. GRANTED EPC supported Reference 1777/16 2 storey rear extension at 8 Oxer GRANTED EPC supported



Pre-application Planning protocol In line with recommendations from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), and in light of the pressure from Developers relying on Government policy to press for ad hoc development on the outskirts of rural settlements, it was agreed that rules should be in place governing the response to any such approaches prior to a formal Planning application. The Clerk had distilled from the NALC guidance an 8 point protocol which was unanimously adopted. There are numerous existing statutory and Code of Conduct constraints on councillors in such situations, but this document clarifies areas such as the status of any views expressed and the open nature of any information tabled at any discussion. It will be published on the Council's web site.

Annual Parish Meeting There is a legal requirement for the community to be invited to an annual meeting to discuss, 'parish affairs'. This is an ancient procedure commonly used as a local forum for residents to learn about and have their say on issues of local importance. There is no established framework and Elmswell Parish Council has often used the occasion to encourage wider debate. It had been hoped that the new constituency MP, Jo Churchill, might have been able to attend as a focus for the event. This has proved not to be possible, so the evening will invite, amongst any general questions of relevance to the village, queries relating to the emerging Neighbourhood Plan and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee will attend. The meeting was scheduled for 26th May.

Wesley facilities The Chairman confirmed that, as per the statement published in the May Newsletter, professional negotiations towards the purchase by the Council of the Wesley chapel and facilities on School Road

are continuing. He repeated the hope that progress would be such that the threatened closure at the beginning of July need not happen but suggested that the Mother & Toddler Group should approach the BMA, as other groups have already done, to look at the possibility of temporarily housing their activities at Blackbourne if the eviction does take place.

Facebook Cllr David Hawes raised the issue of the posting on social media of scurrilous and misleading accusations of bullying by councillors which had, allegedly, led to a formal letter of remonstrance having been sent by the previous Council Chairman, Cllr Reed, to an offending Councillor. All Councillors present and the Clerk confirmed that they had not had such a letter. Cllr Reed has, so far, refused to respond to Council's enquiries for further details. Cllr Hawes suggested, to general agreement, that further Council action is necessary.

Police The Clerk was asked to write to the Police & Crime Commissioner and to the Chief Constable regarding the recent spate of burglaries and a poor Police response following recent cutbacks in manpower and a reorganisation of Police resources. There have also been incidents involving damage to vehicles and a dog attack which have not been appropriately attended or acted upon and these are to be included towards making the case that the reduction in service has been too severe.

Hedges The Clerk was asked to begin the annual round of letters to individual households seeking co-operation in the cutting back of hedges which obstruct pavements, often causing danger to wheelchair users and prams.

Parking The parking at Wetherden Road beyond the Jubilee Terrace junction was

raised as a matter of concern, the situation having recently worsened as the adjacent field crop has grown up. The Clerk was asked to seek advice and take action if appropriate.

Next meeting The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 20th June at 7.30pm in The Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council committee meetings and the agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on line at www.elmswell.onesuffolk.net, on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op outside the Post Office.

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

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



FOOTPATH WALK

Our next walk starts, as usual, from Crown Mill, on **SUNDAY 12th JUNE 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

CALLING AT THE WETHERDEN MAYPOLE



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

ELMSWELL POOR'S LAND CHARITY

This registered charity has, since 1897, administered an endowment and the ensuing income for the 'benefit of the most deserving and necessitous persons resident in the parish', which, nowadays amounts to a welcome annual gift of grocery vouchers made just before Christmas.

There are vacancies for Trustees to represent the Parish Council at the one meeting each year which administers the charity's aims.

Interested residents are invited to be in touch with the Secretary, Graham Newman, on 240846; email: newmangraham@btinternet.com

Registered Charity no 212348

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.

June 2016

- 1 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Glen Abassi - My Courier Work for Anthony Nolan
- 2 Over 55's Club Brick Lane 60's Show with 3 Course Lunch
- 6 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - meal at Bunbury Arms, Gt. Barton - meet at chapel at 6.30pm - open to men as well
- 9 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7pm A.G.M.**, then Speaker Brian Milner: *"Six Hospitals and a Chapel in Medieval Bury St Edmunds"*
- 9 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 10 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 12 Annual Service: The Friends of St John's 10.30am in St John's Church
- 14 Elmswell W.I. we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Suffolk Law Advice Centre Speaker Ann Barber
- 16 Over 55's Club Alan Jewell 50s 60s Music OPEN EVENING
- 17 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 21 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: The Perennial Mr Potter
- 21 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Talk by Juliet Walker and PAT dog Raffle
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 24 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30
- 30 Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper with Brian of Note

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**
- 12 W.I. 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 in St John's Church 2pm-5pm each day
- 17 Elmswell Open Gardens
- 19 Gardening Club - Summer Activity
- 19 Elmswell Exchange Social Club AGM Strawberry Tea Raffle

- 22 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 28 Over 55's Club Outing The Hut @ Felixstowe
- 29 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

August 2016

- 3 Elmswell Exchange W.I. Members Meeting - Garden Party at Carol's
- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 Elmswell W.I. we meet at The Blackbourne for 7.30pm Members meeting
- 11 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Shared Lunch
- 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 W.I. 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 W.I. 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 W.I. 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 W.I. 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

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

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Regular meetings at Blackbourne

Monday
Guides 6.30 - 8.00,

Youth Club 7.00 - 9.00, Zumba 6.00 - 7.00

Tuesday

Beavers 5.15 - 6.30

Slimming World 5.30 & 7.30

WI (2nd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 10.30

Gardening club (3rd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 - 10.00

Wednesday

Scouts 5.45 - 9.00

Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 - 9.00

Winters Academy - dance classes 4.00 - 6.00

Thursday

Brownies 5.30 - 8.00

Over 55's 7.00 - 10.00 (2nd & 4th monthly)

Friday

Bingo (last Friday monthly) eyes down 7.30

BATS - Badminton & Table Sports - 7.00 - 10.00

Sunday

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

To make a booking enquiry

Call; 244134

Email; clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



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- Striking / blocking / punching / kicking
- Throws & takedowns
- Groundfighting and escapes

– **Blackbourne Community Centre** –

Mondays:

Adults (15+) 8pm to 9.30pm

Wednesdays:

Juniors 6pm to 7.30pm

Adults 7.30pm to 9pm

For further information call Gary 07711 680262 / Eves: 01359 760148