

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



Thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...
February 2017

Walk on the Wet Side



see page 7

Art Club



...see page 1

Youth footballers...



...see page 23

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association
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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.

On Monday 23rd January, 160 people squeezed into the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne to hear the developer's agent explain the latest version of the plans seeking to put 240 houses on Wetherden Road and a further 38 off Warren Lane.

On the following Saturday, many were back to pack the Jubilee Hall and enjoy Chris Wylie's quiz held in aid of The East Anglian Air Ambulance.

The atmospheres were very different for two main reasons. The first event raised more questions than answers and there was no winner. The Quiz provided an answer to every question, a successful team and a substantial winner by way of the charity which was suddenly better off by some £850.00!

This is regrettable. Perhaps, by combining the techniques of the Quiz to the subject matter of the consultation, there can be a more satisfying outcome?

We present an imaginary joint event: **"DEVELOPERS QUIZZED:"**

Q: Are you only in this to make money...don't you care about the damage you're proposing to our community?

A: We are a business like any other. We are strictly controlled by the Planning system. We seek to maximise profit for our shareholders but must satisfy the regulatory bodies...County Council, District Council, who themselves must comply with rules and regulations laid down by the Government.

Q: What about our school? It's full right now...we know of children having to travel to other villages because our school can't take them?

A: We only know what Suffolk County Council tell us. They say that the school can accommodate 315 pupils and can handle an annual intake of up to 45. At the moment there are 263 on the books – space, therefore for 52 more children. These are not our figures, they are from SCC who say they have recently checked with the School that they accurately reflect the reality of the situation. Similarly, SCC have looked at our proposals for Wetherden Road and Warren Lane and estimate that, when all built and occupied, the developments will yield 69 new primary school pupils.

Q: Ah! Yes, all very well, but you are forgetting the 190 houses on the Bacon Factory estate and another 60 in the pipeline from Borley Crescent...and more threatened...the school can't take all these children, surely?

A: We can only deal with our own proposals. It's Suffolk County Council's job to make educational provision for the developments that come forward – or to object to those developments if there cannot be proper provision, as the law requires, for the educational needs of the new population. Your Parish Council is pressing for close liaison on the fact that Elmswell School is projected to be at capacity sometime in 2019. SCC is currently assessing the viability of making more places available at the existing school site and / or identifying a new site...one such is proposed in a long-standing draft proposal for houses at White House Farm, soon expected to be subject to the Application process. Meanwhile, we must abide by what the Planners decide. We've clearly stated what we want and made out a detailed case. It is down to elected Councillors at Mid Suffolk to decide whether or not we can have it.

Q: What about the Health Centre? It takes 3 weeks to get an appointment and the car park is permanently too full to be safe! We need our own surgery here in the village.

A: Again, not something we can do anything about. As with education, we will have to pay money into central funds to help accommodate the new population we are creating. Our estimate is that this will amount to £2,134,860... what the Authorities do with this money is not in our control...they require it, we pay it, they spend it. Again, liaison through your immediately accountable local representation, the Parish Council, is key to trying to ensure that the money goes where you want it spent. However, be aware that, as in many other areas, Whitehall maintains a stranglehold on policy, despite all the talk of 'Localism'. The framework that they are currently proposing for local Health Services is for fewer, bigger health centres...it would be swimming against a powerful tide to argue for a Health Centre for Elmswell.

Q: All right. Try this...you have just driven into the village at 6.30pm. It is not a sleepy little hamlet. There is lots of traffic, and several pinch points - like the corner by the Almshouses, the Warren Lane / Church Road crossroads, the bend at Cooks Road / New Road and our notorious level crossing - it is dangerous. How can you justify putting the traffic from another 278 house on our roads? Even if your proposals are south of the railway, people will still want to access north of the line - for Blackbourne, shops etc, and they will all want to go down Church Hill to A14. The roads won't take it.

A: If SCC Highways say that the roads won't take it, we won't get our Planning permission. We have had a professional survey carried out and published the results which indicate that the road infrastructure can handle what we are proposing.

Q: But your figures are nonsense! They are selective and avoid the reality of the problems we experience day in and day out even without your 278 houses.

A: The figures are published. They are based on accepted industry norms using established criteria. If they are to be disputed perhaps it's something your Parish Council might do in response to their consultation from Mid Suffolk.

Q: Why are you proposing building outside of the development boundary for our village? This is good farm land - we need all the agricultural output we can get if European imports are to become difficult. This should all be planned for in advance, not on a land-grab basis.

A: The development boundary is defined in Mid Suffolk's Local Plan. The Government has

ruled that all such Plans must be backed by proof that each District has a list of identified sites for housebuilding which covers the next 5 years. Mid Suffolk have projections for just over 3 years. Therefore their Plan is overruled by the Government's own National Planning Policy Framework which says that the District must give 'positive consideration' to any application, anywhere in its district, that is 'sustainable'. We think that our application, given the figures which back it up, is 'sustainable'.

Q: Elmswell isn't 'sustainable' now...too much traffic, not enough school places, health centre bursting at the seams...

A: I think we're going round in circles.

??

The results of this particular quiz won't be known for some months. The Parish Council's answers are reprinted on page 15.

In the meantime, one of Chris's real quiz questions from Saturday:

'What cheese is made backwards?'

Easier than Planning!

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

February 21st	March 28th
April 25th	May 23rd
June 27th	July 25th

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

Your editors:

Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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Reg. Charity No. 304879.

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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

Your Newsletter has been published by the Elmswell Amenities Association (Registered Charity No 304879) on the first Friday of every month since 1986. The advertising administration and the printing are handled professionally - otherwise the whole enterprise is voluntary, including our team of 36 distributors. The costs are covered by advertising, so, please, support our advertisers, and do mention us if and when you use them. Last year the magazine made a contribution of £10,936.00 to the Association's funds - all of it directed to improvements in the village.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL ART CLUB

The winter weather has kept most of us indoors seeking tasks that need doing in the house with as little as possible outside work. In artistic terms this often manifests itself in painting something to take our minds off the frost, cold and rain.

Our club recently purchased some nice exhibition stands ready for our next art exhibition in May this year. We will be offering to rent them out to some of our other village groups if they decide to show their work too. So please feel free to contact me if you are interested.

Art Club Secretary, Josephine Hale, 01359 242592



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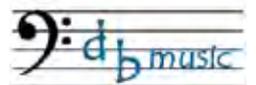
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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

On 12 January there was a full hall, ready for the earlier start which had been arranged so that we could launch the World War One project for which we have received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This has enabled the Group to purchase several items for use when the exhibition and talk "The Lost Aerodrome of Elmswell" goes 'on the road'.

Guests included Jane Storey from Suffolk County Council and Sarah Mansel from Mid Suffolk District Council who had donated funds to the History Group from their respective locality budgets. Also attending were Pete Edmonds, representing Elmswell Parish Council, Ann and Peter Reynolds, descendants of Capt Francis Reynolds one of the 75 Squadron pilots and Joff Whitten of the Heritage Lottery Fund, who spoke about the Fund and its grant to our History Group. Dee Boneham of RAF Honington represented 75 Squadron, Nick Sign represented the Suffolk Local History Council and Andy Tucker, Thurston Air Cadets. Apologies for absence were received from Jo Churchill our MP and a letter wishing us well was read out.

The main part of the meeting was a talk by Peter McGee and Graham Mack setting out the purpose behind their work in tracing personnel and property connected with the airfield. The aerodrome was built in the early part of the war, when Zeppelins were violating the skies of in Ease Anglia.

Of the 50 buildings erected there were vast hangars, messes, a sick bay, mortuary, etc. The personnel included 35 Officers, 191 other ranks and a number of women. Many of the Officers came from countries of the Empire – Australia, New Zealand, India, South Africa and the Bahamas to name just a few.

75 Squadron moved from Bedford as an air defence system in October 1916 and was linked

with Harling Road and Hadleigh. The planes which flew from these airfields had open cockpits and no parachutes. Many lives were lost, a large number of them a result of crashes during night flying training. Photographs of some of these brave airmen with details of their service are part of the Exhibition.

The airfield was closed in 1919 and the site was sold in 1920; the large hangar was moved to Stowmarket and used as a cattle shed at R. C. Knight's saleyard, another one was purchased to become the Village Hall at Drinkstone.

Graham and Peter have already written a comprehensive article for the next issue of the *Suffolk Local History Review*, copies of which will be available to borrow at our next meeting. The award of Lottery Funding has been featured in local newspapers and on local TV and they have bookings to visit other local history groups with the talk and exhibition. Their enthusiasm and interest was appreciated by all those present at the meeting.

Refreshments were served and featured 'Trench Cake' made by the lady members! This cake was made during the War to be sent to the men at the front.

If anyone has an interest in taking part in discovering more about the airfield, at whatever level and commitment can be offered, please contact Stella Chamberlin@yahoo.co.uk. It is not necessary to be a member of the History Group. Some of the research can be done at home on a laptop, etc.

The Group's next meeting will be held at the Wesley Hall, School Road, Elmswell on Thursday 9 February at 7.30pm when Helen Geake (*of the British Museum and 'Time Team'*) will be our speaker. The title of her talk is '**After Roman Britain, who were the Anglo Saxons?**' For more information visit our website www.elmswell-history.org.uk or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359 242601.



ELMSWELL CAMERA GROUP

Well here we are at the start of another year for the group. I hope every one enjoyed the festivities and have recovered.

Our first meeting is on Tuesday February 7th, Blackbourne centre usual room. All are welcome to come along and see what we get up to.

If you would like more information please give me a call on, 01359 241431

Mike Randall

ELMSWELL EVENING WI

January got off to a fabulous start with the enthralling and inspiring talk by Bridget Keevil (of "The fat bird and the boat" blog fame) on "Sailing the great oceans of the world". Inspired by a poster, novice Bridget had 4 weeks training sailing around the Isle of Wight before embarking on the first leg of the Clipper Round the World Race – next stop Rio de Janeiro.

As she soon realised – learning to sail off Portsmouth was no preparation for the real thing. Living as one of 20 crew, aboard a 70 foot racing yacht devoid of all luxuries, Bridget had many adventures which left us speechless. It was an incredible tale of exhaustion – foul weather, little sleep & food liable to be tossed around by waves. Success – winning the Rolex Sydney/Hobart race, even though it meant battling through a storm that saw a third of all entrants retire. And tragedy – the sad loss of two crew from accompanying boats. But overall, this amazing experience has left Bridget a different person – and not just because of the horrific injuries sustained when the boat capsized – with friendships made for life.

If you are thinking of taking up a new challenge this year perhaps you too might be inspired to follow suit. If it is in the form of travel, Bridget and her staff at Travel Stop will be only too happy to help you, and you can ask more about her amazing adventures.

Meeting at the Blackbourne Hall on the second Tuesday of every month at 7.30, we have a wonderful programme ahead of us this year, with talks on subjects from Coffee to Pantomime Dames. February will see us learning about "Medication in Motion" so if you fancy some Tai Chi, please come along and join us – visitors are always very welcome.



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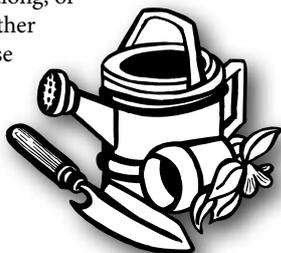


ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

Another New Year for the Gardening Club and surely one resolution would be to enjoy our gardens. A slightly self-satisfied smile lingers on our lips as we listen to the experts pontificating about the health benefits of gardening. We know! Even if we are not threatened with tidal surges in Elmswell; our plants still need protecting from gale-force winds, heavy rain and even snow. So, us hardy gardeners will be braving the elements, checking stakes, ties and fleeces and other supports for damage and maybe moving heavy plant pots to sunnier (or less dark) positions to maximise the winter light. Even planning this year's vegetable plots and flower borders needs a lot of hard work from our little grey cells. We are even endorsed by Suffolk Radio who inform us that the 'digging season' has started!

Last year we had a varied programme of speakers ranging from patio gardening to a slideshow of Gertrude Jekyll and Edwin Lutyens gardens which was rather inspiring and even if we could not emulate the great borders – there was always the special Lutyens garden seat to buy. We even had a theatrical presentation on the life of the perennial Mr. Potter which was greeted with great applause. We are always surprised at the diverse collection of speakers that Catherine and Margaret manage to find for us to enjoy and this year will be even more exciting. Who could resist a talk on garden bugs or even finding out more about Wicken Fen? Even a talk on 'Houseplant Jungles' but you will have to wait till June for that one.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on **Tuesday, 21st February, 7.30pm, at the Blackbourne**, for an informative talk and demonstration from Graeme Proctor of Crown Nurseries and Arboretum on shrub pruning; especially as now is the time for pruning deciduous shrubs. Also, our speaker may be bringing along some plants for us to buy. Our meetings are extremely informal, social and friendly with many members eager to give advice and learn from our expert speakers. Membership is still only £13.00 per year, but to sample our offerings – non-members may attend for £3.00 per session. If you would like to join us, come along, or if you require further information please contact **Nick Chamberlin on 242601**.



ELMSWELL BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Now we have all recovered from Christmas and the New Year the next thing to think about is summer holidays; and what do we all need for a summer **holiday**? New clothes. We have the perfect solution to this problem for your children; the Elmswell Baby & Toddler Nearly New Sale.

This year the sale will be held on Saturday March 25th from 11am until 2pm at the Blackbourne Centre. Please come along and support this event and snag yourself a few bargains in the process! We sell toys, books, DVDs, children's clothes (0 to 8 years), maternity and all manner of baby/toddler items such as baths, cots and pushchairs.

If you would like to sell your items please contact Jo Beard on Elmswell.nns@gmail.com for a seller number and instructions on how to label your items. If you can offer a few hours on the day to help us a sign up sheet will be appearing at the group in the very near future. Please remember the funds raised at this event help us keep the group open and provide funding for trips and parties. Without it the group would not be what it is and we need your help to make it successful.

If you are a baker and would like to offer your services to our café, yummy cakes for them to sell are always appreciated. If you are not sure how good your baking skills are there are always committee members willing to taste test in advance of the sale.

We have a new Chairman, Debbie Houldsworth, and would like to welcome her aboard and wish her all the best in running the group. If you have any suggestions please approach Debbie and I'm sure she will do all she can to accommodate you. Debbie, my suggestion is a fire station visit on a Monday in the summer!

Finally for this month we have a poorly baby in our group, Myla Chambers. For those of you who don't know after a long stint in hospital she has finally been diagnosed with an extremely rare form of vascular rings call double aortic arch. This is so rare that the specialists at Addenbrooks have only seen it in textbooks. Myla will require surgery at Great Ormond Street and until then she will remain in hospital. Michelle and her husband Scott have costs mounting with petrol, parking, extra nursery classes for Eddie etc. so a few of us have set up a Just Giving page as it is the only way we can help this lovely family. Please donate what you can at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/myla-chambers> I know Michelle and Scott will appreciate each and every donation made and will make a huge difference to them.



ELMSWELL COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

The latest figures for both Ashfield rd and Church Hill are now available plus the results of an initial police campaign to target speeding motorists in the village, as a result of Speedwatch collecting detailed figures.

Ashfield Road

In 3 weeks there were 28,259 journeys in total with 48% of them at or below the 30mph speed limit (13,351 journeys). This maintained the previous reductions seen over the last four recording sessions.

It still meant that more than half of all drivers were exceeding the speed limit with 4845 vehicles (17%) exceeding 40mph. The highest recorded speed was 70mph. This percentage figure has also shown a reduction through each of the last four recording periods.

Church Hill

In the 3 weeks from 29th December to 19th January there were 67,347 journeys in total with 41% of them at or below the 30mph speed limit (27,564 journeys). This was a slight improvement on the previous session and continued the trend seen since the first recordings in July to give the best ever result. However, within those breaking the limit were 7 individuals exceeding 70mph, 2 of whom somehow exceeded 80mph, the highest speeds we have ever recorded.

Police Speed Results

The police cameras were in Elmswell on 5 occasions during December and January checking speeds on both Church Hill and Ashfield rd. On Church Hill, a total of 18 motorists were booked as exceeding the speeding thresholds while on Ashfield rd 9 drivers were similarly booked. Each driver received both a fixed penalty fine and three points on their licence which will affect their future insurance payments.

The police have informed us that they have now added us to their regular rota of speed camera visits. They will be back!

Don't risk an accident, a fine, or penalty points. It simply isn't worth it. Penalties for dangerous driving are severe. Slow down and stick to the speed limits. They are there for good reason.

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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Our next fundraiser is now just a month away - a Charity Race Night, which will be held on March 3rd at 7:30pm at The Maypole in Wetherden. Tickets are just £6 which covers your entry and will pay for a small dinner. There is also the opportunity to sponsor a horse for just £2 extra - if the horse wins, you will get £3 back and a bottle of wine! There will be nine races, so stacks of chance to win, yet more opportunities to scoop prizes with a huge raffle and entertainment from a live vocalist. Tickets are on sale in the library or from The Maypole. All proceeds will be split between Elmswell Library Friends and Prostate Cancer UK.

Our next Community Café will be on February 22nd at 10:30am. Nineteen people came along to our last event, held at Dorothy's, and it was lovely to meet new people. So if you're new to the village and want to find out about local groups, or if your circumstances have changed and you have found yourself isolated, then please come along to the village café on Station Road and for the price of a cuppa you might meet

some like-minded people who live just around the corner.

Our Baby Bounce and Tot Rock Group was relaunched in January by a wonderful volunteer, Alison. It's a song and rhyme session aimed at babies and toddlers (and their parents or carers). It will run in term time, is free to join and is every Friday from 9:45am. And if you are interested in helping Alison run the group then please let her or a staff member know.

We are also still looking at starting an At Home Library Service - where volunteers bring books to the homes of people who may not be able to get to the library for whatever reason. We have volunteers ready to go, so if you are interested in receiving this service or if you know someone who you think might be then please contact the library.

Our Family History Group is getting very popular and every fortnight the library buzzes with excitement as members make new discoveries about their pasts. The group is free to

join, run by keen enthusiasts Peter and Julie, and is every other Wednesday from 2:30-4:30pm. The February sessions will be on Wednesday 8th and 22nd.

Elmswell Library is open Tuesday and Thursday 10am-1pm and 2-7pm, Wednesday and Friday 2-5pm, Saturday 10am-1pm and Sunday 10am-3pm. You can contact us on 01359 240974.

Emma Yarrow
Elmswell Library manager
emma.yarrow@suffolklibraries.co.uk
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NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK



Despite a wet and miserable day, a good crowd gathered for Dick Burch's annual wander into the New Year.

Dick ensures the occasion is gently convivial, and the combined efforts of Alan and Linda Wells provided piping-hot roast pork with all the trimmings plus hot punch and a tot of whisky (as necessary) at the half-way point. Then back to The Fox to dry off.

Thanks to Dick and to Mr & Mrs Wells. Excellent behaviour!





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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

The Big BioBlitz is coming!

We're busy planning for our Lukeswood BioBlitz and we now have a provisional date for this exciting new event – 30th June and 1st July. The Friday will be devoted to children from Elmswell Primary School, while the Saturday will be an opportunity for the whole community to join in.

The aim of the event is to find and identify as many species as we can at Lukeswood over the two day period. That includes plants, flowers, trees, mammals, insects, bugs, birds – all kinds of wildlife. It's a bit like a race, with the species count going up as the minutes tick by. But it will also be a proper scientific exercise, with official recording forms to note everything found, and laptops, guidebooks and a variety of technical aids on hand to help with identification. We aim to photograph as many of the finds as possible – that way, if we can't get a definitive identification, the photos can be used later on to track them

down on various websites. Once the records are all compiled they'll be submitted to the Suffolk Biological Records Centre to add to their database of Suffolk species.

We hope to have a number of local experts with us on both days to give us the benefit of their local knowledge and help with the all-important identification, especially of all the bugs and tiny beasties that can be difficult to ID.

The BioBlitz will also add significantly to our knowledge of Lukeswood as a wildlife site. The two days will inevitably provide a snapshot of what's there, but it will be an in-depth snapshot. The information it provides will help us in our planning to improve all the habitats we have been working on for the last six years.

We are delighted that the young scientists of Elmswell Primary School will be joining us, and we're sure that the children will learn a lot as well as having a fun and enjoyable day. Lukeswood

is our local patch, so this is a wonderful opportunity to get to know it better. We need as many people as possible to join in – we have six and a half acres to cover! – so if you can help please get in touch. As our plans develop there will be more information in your Newsletter, so keep looking.

What will we find? Will we perhaps find something rare? Whatever we find, it will be exciting! Here are a few photos of some of the wildlife we've spotted over the last few years – just to whet your appetite for the Big BioBlitz of 2017!



Mary Feeney
Tel: 241901

info@elmswild.org.uk





ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Contact: Revd Peter Goodridge, 01359 240512, elmswellrector@gmail.com, www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk ...and find us on facebook.

Hello from St John's

We've kicked off 2017 with a bundle of events and special services! We hope your 2017 is going great... if it's not, for whatever reason, we'd love to help you. We are always happy and ready to listen. Whoever you are and whatever your story is, you will always be welcome at St John's.

January saw the first Breakfast Church at St John's. Church with croissants. Wonderful contemporary worship with our amazing band. Teaching with compassion. Genuine hope, love and faith – directly from Jesus and magnified by the people of Elmswell. If you're interested in finding out more, please join us at the next Breakfast Church – food from 9:00am and the service at 9:30am Sunday 19th February. Everyone is always welcome.

Sunday 19th February
 Breakfast church at 9:00am
 Holy communion at 11:00am

Also new to January was the 11:00am Holy Communion Service (which followed Breakfast Church). In contrast to breakfast church, this service had the magnificent organ and choir to lead the worship. This traditional style service was a beautiful and well-received addition to our service list. We are excited to move forward with our selection of church services.

On Friday 10th February, Jane Langston will be speaking at the ladies lunch at the Wesley Hall. Jane will be sharing what led her to start working with the Samaritans charity and some experiences of her time there. The Samaritans are a UK charity offering support to people who are suicidal or despairing, and are on hand 24 hours a day, every day of the year. More information can be found at www.samaritans.org

On Saturday 11th February, Tim Elliot will be speaking at the mens breakfast in the church

room. He'll be talking about his charity work with "Tools with a Mission." TWAM's mission is to collect unwanted tools, refurbish them, sort them into trade kits and send them across the world. They send around 22 containers filled with over 300 tonnes of tools every year. Their motivation is to be a refuge for the poor, a safe place to find support, hope and dignity through the provision of tools and equipment. More information can be found at www.twam.uk

For both the ladies lunch and mens breakfast it is advisable to sign up on the sheets at the back of church, but if you can't make it to the church to sign up, please telephone us and we can add your name on! Thanks :)

Details of our services this month are below:

Sunday 5th February
 9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 12th February
 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10:30am Parish Praise

Sunday 19th February
 9:30am Breakfast Service
 (breakfast from 9:00am)
 11:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th February
 10:30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 1st March
 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday 5th March
 9:30am All Age Service
 11:00am BCP Morning Prayer plus Communion

ST JOHN'S FLOODLIGHTING

You are invited to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's to help with the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church. You can choose to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively you can simply make a donation. For the winter months the lights will be on between 5.30 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5.

Please make cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

FEBRUARY 2017 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 4 in loving memory of my dear Dad, Geoffrey Dalton.
- 6 in memory of Joan Davidson on her Birthday. "So many cherished memories". Ann, James and family.
- 6 Geoffrey Sturgeon. "Remembering the best Grandad". Love from Shaun & Shelly. xxx.
- 12 in loving memory of Ted Rookard on his Birthday. Love from all his family.
- 13 in loving memory of Marjorie Ellen Manning.

- 13 remembering Fred Rush, a dear Dad, Grandad, and Great Grandad, on his Birthday.
- 16 in loving memory of Ron Last.
- 19 treasured memories of Doris Towndrow.
- 27 Happy "18th" Birthday Louise. Lots of love from Mum, Nan, Storm, Poppy & Diesel.

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

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest: Father David Finegan, The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road, Stowmarket IP14 1BQ
 Tel: 01449-612946

E-mail: ourlady.stowmarket@btinternet.com

MASS TIMES: Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday)

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

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

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

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the front of Our Lady's Church, in the weekly Newsletter and on the new Parish Website www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk **Father David Finegan**



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Christmas activities went well, we went carol singing at Hanover Court again and some of the residents came out and joined us/made a request for a particular carol. Our Carols by Candlelight was well attended, we had to get more chairs out this time!! Our services either side of Christmas were led by members of the congregation. On New Years Day we focused on having innumerable reasons to praise God, whatever our circumstances, under the heading of 10,000 Reasons to Praise, taken from the popular newish worship song by Matt Redman and others (search for it on Google!).

Our activities in the next few weeks are:-

We've resumed our midweek get togethers on Thursday evenings in different people's homes. These are very informal evenings when we discuss a passage in the bible (nothing too deeply theological) and pray together but also spend a lot of time chatting about all sorts of things. You'd be very welcome to join us. Phone



Tony or Margaret on 241541 to find out where we're meeting in any particular week (we don't meet on the Thursday when Food 'n' Friends has taken place – we're too exhausted!!).

The Ladies Friendship Group meets on Monday February 6th at 7.45pm. A Games evening with Jenny Spurgeon. Phone Margaret on 241541 for more information. ALL ladies are welcome.

Food & Friends on Thursday February 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. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place.

On Sunday February 12th we are celebrating our 130th Church Anniversary. This All-Age Service will be led by Stephen Spurgeon.

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:-

- February 5th Stephen Spurgeon (inc Communion)
- February 12th Stephen Spurgeon (All-Age Service) – Church 130th Anniversary
- February 19th Kevin Moore
- February 26th Paul Kemp
- March 5th Rev. David Thompson (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

COPPER DEFICIENCY

Parish Councillors are very aware of the feeling amongst many residents that the cut-backs in Police cover have gone too far. The resulting letter was sent jointly to the Chief Constable and Police & Crime Commissioner at the end of November:

Gentlemen,

I am asked by Councillors to draw together their comments and views, informed by those of their constituents as well as from their own observations.

The new policing model is vastly unsatisfactory to the people of Elmswell. They read of priorities such as cybercrime and on-line offences which they do not feel feature prominently in their day to day concerns. Neither do they feel that the policemen that they knew, when there were policemen they could know, are necessarily ideally suited to high-tech, desk-based duties.

Accepting that there might be a glimmer of hope in terms of the embarrassing and hazardous failure of the 101 contact system, there seems little chance that the sense of security and the hands-on attendance of officers will return, leaving the community feeling un-policed, un-protected and ill served - ostensibly in the interests of financial cut-backs which do not seem to trickle down to their Council Tax bills. One obvious concomitant is the sense of resignation whereby folk no longer report minor crime or nuisance which results in the statistical misapprehension that crime and nuisance are on the decline.

The employment of street wardens seems to be the inevitable way forward, but it is the slippery slope to double taxation as we seek to reassure the vulnerable members of our community that their insecurities are addressed, lacking. Similarly, CCTV is currently under discussion to help fill the security void, at a cost to a community that has already paid for security and finds it lacking.

Councillors are aware that there are common mis-conceptions regarding crime levels and risk. However, these are their people, and they are

people who deserve and who pay for some peace of mind. The current situation, and the likely trend, runs entirely counter to reassurance in this regard.

You are well aware of this. The Press today highlight Long Melford's expression of similar concerns and public meetings are hostage to this theme. The verbiage in response is impressive, but hollow.

Councillors realise that there are national priorities that inform local strategies and that there are boxes that must be ticked. They appeal to you to consider pulling back from the headline-grabbing social media harassment / on-line fraud areas of activity and devote some time and energies to the things that matter to the people you serve. On a 3-communities per day basis an officer could visit 15 villages a week... pop in the post office/ pub / shop / school, talk with the kids during the school holidays, knock on a few doors where nuisance parking is a problem. Once every 6 weeks would do in each village. 5 days per week, 3 or more villages per day, 60+ villages a month, rolling programme.

I have been asked to invite Tim Passmore to speak at our Annual Parish Meeting next year. I shall do so, however, reassurance on the above, in advance of that date, would be welcome.

Regards

Peter Dow CILCA

Clerk to Elmswell Parish Council

The response to the invitation to address the village directly is reprinted here.

Dear Peter

Thank you for your invitation to Tim Passmore. Apologies but owing to the number of speaker requests received by the PCC and owing to the pressures on his diary, we would encourage yourself and colleagues to attend one of our public meetings instead. We are currently planning this year's programme and will make a note to send you the dates once finalised.

Thank you.



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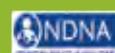
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The Lost Aerodrome of Elmswell

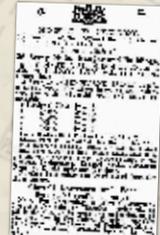
Buried beneath a field in Suffolk is a former guardian of the night-skies, a long forgotten relic of the First World War. More than bricks and concrete, it is a portal to a fascinating story about men and women who rose to meet unprecedented challenges in time of war.



1918 site plan of RAF Elmswell. Courtesy of RAF Museum.

Former Officers Mess, salvaged at Drinkstone.

Research has revealed evidence of the site being used as a military aerodrome between 1916 and 1919; however the Second World War construction of three concrete runways to accommodate USAAF appeared to have removed all features of the First World War occupation. A recent archaeological exploration of the site has produced surprising evidence of many of the First World War buildings.



Aircraft sale announcement: Bury Free Press 17 July 1920.



gasplane shed from Elmswell re-erected in Stanhook.

Was there a Royal Flying Corps presence in Elmswell in the First World War? What exactly was on this site during those pioneering years of aviation? Why was a military aerodrome situated in the middle of Suffolk in 1916, so far from the Western Front? Who was based here?

These questions started a four year project by the Elmswell History Group in 2014. Answers have begun to emerge and reveal a fascinating chapter in Suffolk's history'.



Part of the recent History Group exhibition and talk by Peter McGee and Graham Mack – see their report on page 3

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

STRATEGIC PLANNING – a village under siege?

A public Meeting was held at Blackbourne on 23rd January to give the Agent acting on behalf of the landowner an opportunity to present updated plans and take questions on 2 Planning applications which have been the subject of public consultation and which now have reached the stage where the Parish Council is asked to comment.

In summary, the proposals seek to site 240 houses on either side of Wetherden Road in countryside on the eastern edge of the village and, in tandem, to site 38 dwellings on farmland accessed from the east of Warren lane and bordering Cresmedow Way.

The meeting was attended by some 160 people, some of whom came from Wetherden where there are concerns of a knock-on traffic effect. There was no support for the schemes and considerable opposition to proposals which, broadly, are seen as a serious overloading of the infrastructure with particular concerns around traffic, education and health services.

Once the meeting was over, the Parish Council convened for an Extraordinary Meeting with the 2 Planning applications as the only substantive agenda items. Some 60 members of the public stayed to hear the Councillors' debate and to note their clear and unanimous

objection, now lodged with Mid Suffolk and reprinted here.

NB The Warren Lane text is substantially the same in all salient details as the Wetherden Road response, with extra comment regarding the width of Warren Lane but otherwise just as the one re-produced here. Both are now posted on the Mid Suffolk Planning website and back-up material is available to view by appointment with the Parish Clerk.



Forecast peak age group sizes

School Capacity	PAN	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
315	45	263	281	297	319	334

Housing developments wholly or partly within the school catchment area

Application Reference	Location	Total Units	Estimated Housing Completions				
			2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
0846/13	St Edmunds Drive Former Grampian Foods (Harris Bacon) Site	190	0	65	65	60	0
Totals		190	0	65	65	60	0

Aggregated estimates of pupils from new housing developments	0	16	32	47	47
--	---	----	----	----	----

Proposed Housing	Primary Pupil Yield
Wetherden Road	240
Warren Lane	38
Ashfield Road	140
Borley Crescent	60
School Road	87
565	141





Comments from: Elmswell Parish Council
Planning Officer: Stuart McAdam
Application Number: 4911/16

Proposal:

Outline planning permission for the development of up to 240 dwellings with associated works including vehicular and pedestrian accesses, pedestrian links, infrastructure, open space, landscaping, community parkland and green infrastructure.

Location: Land adjacent to Wetherden Road, Elmswell, IP30 9DG

1 Councillors register strong objection to this proposal for the following reasons:
 1 The likely CIL yield will not adequately support the provision of education facilities commensurate with the strain imposed by the cumulative effect of this Proposal in tandem, as presented at 1.5 in the Applicant's Planning Statement, with the separate application for 38 dwellings on land at Warren Lane. The current school site at Oxer Close will, as per SCC projections table below, be at capacity in 2019/20 which is prior to these applications, if successful, being built. The pupil yield forecast for other pending developments, properly identified by SCC, clearly points up the need for a strategic review of primary school provision in Elmswell which is not reflected in this Application. For this reason, the application is not for a sustainable development and the NPPF presumption in favour falls. Structure Plan Policy SC1 becomes the valid reference point and asserts that;
Where proposals for development cannot be adequately serviced or will overburden existing infrastructure, the district Planning Authority will not grant Planning Permission until these matters are resolved.
 Furthermore, suggestions for quick-fix shoehorning-in of facilities such as all-weather surfacing to replace the school playing field are, on this site already constricted by the recent imposition of the 2 older year groups, not acceptable to Elmswell residents who do not expect to have to tolerate an overcrowded and urban environment for their children. A longer term view is essential and applications such as this must await such a review.

2. The figures presented in the Transport Assessment appended to this Application regarding Existing Traffic Conditions, Trip

Generation & Distribution rely on studies which are out of date, fail to adequately allow for anticipated traffic growth, ignore available information on traffic growth within the village and woefully underestimated the anticipated additional volumes of traffic which would be generated by the developments, both through Elmswell and Wetherden / Haughley New Street. There are inevitable and decisively severe impacts on junction capacity within Elmswell and an unacceptable extra through-traffic loading on the satellite villages.

The Applicants have based their anticipated trip-rates-per-property at 6.1 on a study carried out for the Harris Bacon Factory development in Elmswell which surveyed peak time trip rates from Elmswell's Blackbourne estate and were used here as unaltered percentages to estimate the potential trips from the proposed Wetherden Road development. No allowance has been made for increase in traffic volumes since the Harris study which was conducted in April 2008. This coincided with the height of the financial crisis which, field professionals accept, led to a reduction in household journeys at that time. Neither has any allowance been made for year-on-year 'trip inflation'. Given that this application seeks to project to 2021, the figures used are at least 13 years out of date. Additionally, the Assessment carried out a single day's traffic survey of movements along Wetherden Road and its continuation into Church Road. At the Cross Street crossroads, counts of 390 and 395 two-way movements were recorded in the morning and evening peak hours respectively. This, compares to statistics recorded at the same point in a 2012 in a week-long ATC survey carried out for the Bacon Factory application which had corresponding figures of 286 and 328 peak hour movements. There has, therefore, been an increase of some 20% - 35% in 4 years.

Councillors argue that it would be appropriate to apply this rate of increase since the 2012 Blackbourne Road study in assessing relevant growth statistics in this instance. Consequently, the additional traffic volumes included in the Transport Assessment of approximately 190 two-way trips in both morning and evening peak periods should be increased by between 80% and 100% to give an accurate assessment of the impact on Wetherden Road, Church Road and their associated junctions. Whilst it would appear that the Cross Street junction would remain within accepted capacity limits, even allowing for the higher volumes of traffic, it is unlikely that the Church Road / School Road junction would remain within the 0.85 RFC safe capacity threshold at peak morning times. The PICADY assessment carried out by the Applicant's agent (Transport assessment table 8.5), taking account of their proposed traffic flows, identifies a.m. junction capacity as

reaching 0.795. This compares with the PICADY assessment produced for the Bacon Factory application in 2012 which assessed capacity at this junction at 0.66. This is a considerable increase in the 4 years between the 2 studies and, if the higher rate of vehicle movements identified earlier occurs, the safe threshold of 0.85% of full capacity will be breached, and dangerously so, during the crucial peak morning period. The recent Mid Suffolk SHLAA identified these issues in its assessment of the sites identified as ELM04 / ELM08 where, **'highways access...is an issue.'**

The above gives good reason to doubt the basic assumptions which underpin a suggestion that this is a sustainable Proposal and, accordingly, removes the right to rely on NPPF as the governing principle in reaching a decision on viability. The default Structure Plan policy T10 clearly requires that the Authority will have regard to, **the suitability of existing roads giving access to the development, in terms of the safe and free flow of traffic and pedestrian safety.** This proposal is clearly in breach and should be rejected.

3. The likely CIL yield will not adequately support the requirements that this Proposal, if successful, creates for enhanced provision at the Woolpit Health Centre where doctors are attracting wide Press coverage of the difficulties they face on the current site. The cumulative effect of this Proposal in tandem, as presented at 1.5 in the Applicant's Planning Statement, with the separate application for 38 dwellings on land at Warren Lane, presents the Practice with the need to provide for 280 new households in along with multiple other Permissions pending and with similar loadings from other communities in the catchment. This clearly renders the Proposal unsustainable and, therefore, beyond the purview of the NPPF. The Local Plan, which, therefore, prevails, has it at 2.9.3 that **the Services and Community Facilities objectives...are...to ensure that adequate services are available to meet the needs of new development.** This proposal runs counter to this structure and should be rejected for that reason.

Support
 No Comment

Object



Signed **Peter Dow** on behalf of the Elmswell Parish Council
 24.01.17





UNWANTED DOORSTEP TRADERS? NOMINATE YOUR ROAD FOR A NO COLD CALLING ZONE

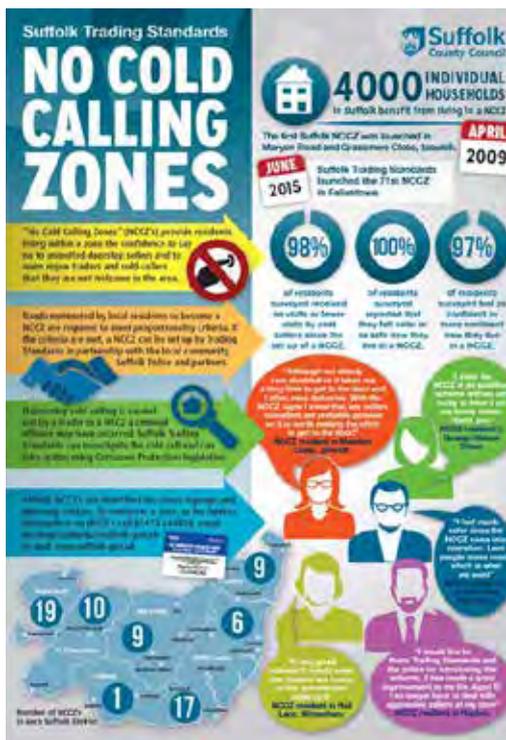
Importantly, for any zone to be created, we need to be able to justify its existence. Therefore it is crucial that you report any doorstep-related issues to either Trading Standards or Suffolk Police depending on its nature. Any reports are recorded and can then help to demonstrate that a 'No Cold Calling Zone' is necessary and proportionate. Without the information, a zone cannot be established as part of central government criteria that Suffolk Trading Standards follow. **the total now stands at 72**



We at Suffolk Trading Standards can offer a number of helpful hints and tips to help deal with doorstep traders. One positive step in particular that Suffolk residents can take in the fight against these rogues is to consider nominating their road, street or close for a 'No Cold Calling Zone'. If you're reading this and are thinking that you've been subject to a number of doorstep callers recently or if the street on which you live is home to more vulnerable members of the public, why not consider nominating it to become a 'No Cold Calling Zone'?

The scheme is operated by us here at Suffolk Trading Standards and, if your street meets an initial set of criteria, the creation of a zone is free to residents and is a simple, hassle-free process. The zone is effectively a way for the community to say collectively that doorstep callers are not welcome. The zone aims to empower residents to feel safer and more secure in their own homes. If anyone ignores the signs and stickers, residents are encouraged to inform Trading Standards immediately so that firm action can be taken against the trader.

Currently, we have set up 72 'No Cold Calling Zones' in Suffolk. As you can see from the information below, these zones can be found in all areas of the county but some areas are less well represented than others. Whilst we welcome nominations in all areas of the county, we're particularly keen to boost the numbers with the Babergh area. As such, if you live in Sudbury, Hadleigh, East Bergholt, Haverhill or any town or village in this district and you've had cold callers disturbing you, we're counting on you to get in touch and nominate your road for a 'No Cold Calling Zone'.



If you nominate a zone and it is declined for any reason, worry not because all is not lost and there are still options available. Usually a zone will be declined due to a lack of evidence to demonstrate that the road in question needs one. In this case, we can offer you the opportunity to report any incidents to Trading Standards or the Police and reassess the information after a few months. More than one nomination can be made for a road – it's not a one-time only offer!

If your road is not suitable for a NCCZ we can provide you and interested residents who request one a free 'super sticker'. There's also the opportunity for individuals to request a 'super sticker' if they feel they are troubled by traders who cold-call them. These are offered free of charge on an individual request basis and are very similarly worded to the stickers that are distributed in No Cold Calling Zones.

The wording on both the NCCZ stickers and super stickers means that traders who ignore the request not to call at your door are committing an offence under consumer protection law. So anyone who has one of our stickers and is called by a trader we ask that they report the matter though our partners at Citizen's Advice Consumer Service ('CitA')



Important statistics

Still not convinced about No Cold Calling Zones? It's ok, we're not finished yet. How about a few facts, figures and quotes from the residents within existing zones?

By now, I expect you're chomping at the bit to nominate your road, street or close for a 'No Cold Calling Zone'. Excellent! Here are the contact details to enable you to make that important nomination:

To nominate your street for a No Cold Calling Zone, please contact Suffolk Trading Standards on (01473) 264859 or email us at: trading_standards@suffolk.gov.uk

Don't forget: you can also sign up as a Consumer Champion and 'Join the Fight' to help Suffolk Trading Standards win the war against scammers. All you need to do is contact us to provide an email address and we will send you weekly bulletins detailing the latest scams, hoaxes and product recalls to read and share with friends and families. Simply email us at trading_standards@suffolk.gov.uk and we will do the rest.?





ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is made up of 4 Parish Councillors and 10 other community members drawn from a broad range of interests and activity groups. The Group has recently secured a government funded Technical Support package which will provide a comprehensive traffic survey towards supporting the contention that the village road system will not, without major infrastructure improvements, handle the extra traffic which is currently threatened from the various off-plan housing development proposals which Government policy is encouraging. Until this survey is under way, the Group is unable to make progress as all other infrastructure hinges on this central requirement to somehow take traffic away from the railway crossing and from the key road junctions which are fast approaching their SCC estimates for safe capacity.

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



PLEASE

Connie Baker, of 15 William Armstrong Close appeals for the return of the memorial statue of a pair of angels stolen from her parents' grave at Elmswell cemetery. The figures are of great family significance and personal value. If anyone can help throw light on this callous theft, it would be much appreciated.

THANK YOU

Peter Baker of Miller Close would like to say a very big Thank You to the people who picked him up after a fall in the early hours of New Year's Day and gave him a lift home.

ALLOTMENT VACANCY

There is a 440 sq. yd. plot available at the Council's allotments off Church Hill

Contact the parish Clerk for details on 244134

clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



PLEASE NOTE Our new 'phone number is 0759 389 3602 for all Amenities Association business, Newsletter and adverts

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Winter word search

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A	N	H	D	F	E	H	E
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BOOTS SCARF COAT COLD HAT
ICE GLOVES WINTER SNOW

How do Eskimos make their beds?

With sheets of ice and blankets of snow.



ICE ART

Create your very own garden ice art, look for natural objects in the garden or when out on a country walk. Put the objects into water in a cup or container. Pop them in the freezer until frozen.

What did the big furry hat say to the warm woolly scarf?

"You hang around while I go on ahead."



HANDPRINT SNOWMAN

You will need:

Sugar paper

Poster paint in black, white, brown and any other colour you like

Instructions:

Paint the palm of your hand white and make a print in the middle of your paper. This is your snowman's body.

Now paint your palm white and the fingers black (missing out the thumb) and print just above the first print so the white palm prints touch. This is your head and hat.

With the side of your finger add a black line between the finger and palm of the second print. This is your hat brim.

Using the side of your finger again add brown twig arms to the body.

With bright paint and the side of your finger again add a scarf.

Finally, fingerprint on a nose, eyes and buttons



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FEBRUARY

7TH & 21ST
MARCH

citizens
advice

Mid Suffolk

The Parish Council, Elmswell Amenities Association and the Elmswell Fire Crew have come together to fund a 6-month trial offering fortnightly free advice sessions for residents who are now able to rely upon the comprehensive range of issues and concerns on which Citizens' Advice skilled advisers can help.

The sessions are held at the Blackbourne between 09.30 – 12.30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month and no appointment is necessary - just come along for a chat. Timed appointments can be arranged through the CAB Stowmarket office.

Advisers can help with any issue from housing, employment, welfare benefits, money and debt advice, family and relationship issues, legal and consumer rights.

The Stowmarket office can be reached by email at: advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk

There is also a national Citizens Advice service online information and advice online via <http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>



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ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB



Quiz Night

Have all of you (Club members and residents of Elmswell) put Saturday, 11 March 2017 into your diaries? **If not, please DO it NOW**, otherwise you could

miss the very much-enjoyed Bowls Club Quiz night. It is scheduled to start at 7pm, in the Blackbourne Hall. We are expecting to see most of our members, families, friends and residents so they can all enjoy this Club event and make it as successful as always. Please contact Brenda Begg as attendant numbers are need for catering purposes for the supper.

Winter Bowls

With the Bowling Green closed; many of our members turn their hand to Carpet Bowls, in Elmswell and indoor Bowls in Stowmarket's indoor rink at the Leisure Centre. Although the form of the game is much the same, the pace of the game can be very different to that played outdoor in the summer.

Indoor Bowling at Stowmarket Leisure Centre

The indoor rinks in Stowmarket are very popular and affordable to play and the usual days are Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am (registration at 9:30am). Many members of other clubs in mid-Suffolk also play in the 'friendly games,' as these matches are called. Therefore, you can start this side of bowling knowing you will be welcome to come and try. Matches are played most afternoons and evenings, so it is best to turn-up in the morning if you want to play.

The World Indoor Match-play Championships

As we go to press, this year's annual event is coming to a close at Hopton-on-Sea, Norfolk. As always, Potters Bowls and Leisure centre is the venue; so, this prestigious annual event is on your doorstep if you want to attend another year! The 2017 Mens' and Ladies' quarter final stages are about to be played and the actual finals of the Men's event will be held at the weekend. Anybody who has visited Potters or watched via BBC 2's coverage, will know how competitively

these championships are fought. The skills that are on show and the dedication of all the players, is evident as they play here. You will know the result before you read this; so, I am unable to tell you more at the time of writing.

Summer Season 2016

As I promised last month, now is a good time of the year to report on our *summer sport*, Lawn Bowls. So, I thought that this would be a good opportunity to show some more of the photos from the 2016 season; taken by our playing photographer, Pete Edmunds. Here is one or two more from the collection:

If you want to play in 2017, contact any member of the Bowls Club and they will help you start.

Trevor Clarke



The Mens' Singles Match



The Annual Firemens Friendly Match

A Club Match against Haughley Bowls Club



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ELMSWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB



EYFC FUTSAL



ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

Although thoughts of long summer days playing or watching cricket matches may seem way off in the distance at the moment, preparations are already underway for the 2017 season.

Pre-season Net Session

Our pre-season net session will take place on **Sunday 8th April from 2-4pm** at Stowmarket Leisure Centre.

Any one who is interested is very welcome to come along. We can provide any kit you might require so there is no need to worry if you can't find that old faithful bat from a few seasons ago. If you would like to come along then please get in touch via one of the methods below.

New Players

We are always looking for new players to keep both our teams thriving. Our Sunday team play in the Suffolk Cricket League (Division 5). Matches begin at 12:30pm most Sundays and are 40 overs per side. Our Wednesday evening team plays in the Stowmarket League and these matches are 20 overs a side, beginning at around 6:30pm.

If you are interested in taking up cricket for the first time or you have played before and would like to have another go then we would be delighted to hear from you. Please feel free to contact the club by one of the methods below to find out more.

2017 Fixtures

Below are the first few fixtures of the 2017 season. These are subject to change so please visit our website to view the most up to date list. Wednesday team fixtures are to be announced.

April 30th – Tendring Park (H)

May 7th – Old Newton (A)

May 14th – Horringer (H)

May 21st – Walsham Le Willows (A)

May 28th - Twinstead (H)

Contact Us

If you would like to contact the club, you can do so via one of these methods.

Call Ian on 01359 244139

Email: elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com

Web: elmswellcricket.co.uk

Twitter: @elmswellcricket

Firstly we would like to wish you all a very happy new year. 2016 was a very successful year for us at Elmswell youth and hope 2017 has the same results.

We start the New Year off with the futsal league. The futsal league is run by the Suffolk ways team and is an indoor tournament. All the teams that take part play at local indoor centres in the area including the Abbeycroft leisure centre in Bury St Edmunds. Futsal is slightly different from the usual Sunday league, but brings many positive benefits to the game. Each team only consists of 4 players at a time and normally play 4 matches which gives all children on the team a chance to play. The games are played on a much smaller 'pitch' this allows the children to gain improved ball skills and techniques. Play is continuous so all children in play are moving at all time allowing them to be a part of the match more. The goal area is a much smaller size this gives the children more chance to shoot accurately and develop more co-ordination skills. All children are able to touch the ball more and be involved more. Futsal allows the children to challenge themselves in a fast paced game, play as a team, and most importantly have fun. The futsal league has been a great opportunity and success for Elmswell Youth and we hope to play more in the future.

As well as the futsal we still have the Sunday league as normal at the Blackbourne with games normally starting at 10.30am so please do come along and support all the teams. Fixtures for these can be found on the F.A website.

With the weather not being the best lately we do need to think of safety first. If the weather is not brilliant members of Elmswell Youth will always carry out a pitch inspection. If in the case we sadly have to call off the matches due to play details will be posted on our twitter feed, and Facebook page details are which below. Coaches of each team will also contact all players due to play to notify them of cancelled matches.

If you have any questions, or if you have a child/children wishing to play please do not hesitate to contact us.

Many Thanks

Gary Pinyoun 07799030163

Michael Pallett 07496983135

Website
www.elmswellyouthfc.co.uk

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Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August, at 7.30pm. There had been no December meeting through lack of business coming forward but the January meeting took place on 16th at The Blackbourne with all of the 11 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Members Mrs Sarah Mansel & John Levantis, Parish Clerk Mr Peter Dow, and 16 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 Mike Friend, 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 November 2016 Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

County Council Cllr Mrs Jane Storey submitted a written report detailing some of the agenda items for the 24th January Cabinet meeting as well as an additional such meeting called for 31st to discuss the response to the Stage II Consultation on Sizewell C proposals from EDF Energy. Meeting papers are published on-line at www.suffolk.gov.uk and Cllr Storey can be contacted at Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk or on 01359 240555.

District Council Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel's written report included confirmation that, at the December Council meeting, MSDC agreed to move to a 'leader-cabinet' model of governance from Many 2017. This means that the leader and single party cabinet will be able to make decisions, and that the leader and the portfolio holders will have some delegated powers. The administration believe that this will make the council more efficient, but will need stronger scrutiny which may slow decision making. Details for the operation of the system will now be drawn up. The new MSDC website now has links to the papers for all council and committee meetings which is much easier to use than the old version. The council papers will be found at <http://babergmidssuffolk.moderngov.co.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories>

The draft budget and medium term financial strategy were discussed at a recent Executive Committee meeting. The recommendations include a 5p increase in council tax (for Band D properties). Regarding the Housing Revenue Account, the mandatory 1% reduction in council house rents will be implemented along with an increase in garage rents. The 'Pay to stay' rent increase for households with income above £60k is not to be implemented. It is proposed that any income generated from Right to Buy receipts are retained to enable the development and purchase of replacement properties to continue. The Green group will be proposing an alternative budget for Full Council to consider at the next meeting in February. It is hoped that the land and assets at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre are able to be transferred from Suffolk County Council to MSDC. One sports hall and part of the playing fields were retained by SCC for adjacent Stowmarket High 5 school to use, but now that the usage pattern of the school has changed, they have less need of the space.

The report from Cllr Levantis included an update on the proposals for Devolution to

the effect that, having finally been considered by the Secretary of State, a deal including all Suffolk Authorities and three Norfolk Authorities has been withdrawn owing to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk's decision at a meeting on 17th November against participation. However, at the Suffolk Public Sector Leaders' meeting on the 18th November it was unanimously agreed to continue with the group meetings, but to present a different recommendation along the lines of confirming Suffolk's support to the devolution process and to authorise the Leader and Chief Executive to seek an urgent meeting with the Secretary of State to see where we go from here with a view to the submission of a new devolution bid for Suffolk and others. He further confirmed that the gym at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre has recently received a £100,000 upgrade investment from the Council. The updated gym features new state-of-the-art cardio vascular apparatus as well as aesthetic improvements all round.

BMA A report tabled by the Blackbourne Management Association, which administers the Council's Blackbourne facilities, confirmed that the Members' offer to absorb, with the assistance of current users of the Wesley facilities, the administration of both sites when Wesley is purchased, had found general support. The Association's Constitution will be revised accordingly as and when the acquisition is completed. Income to date of £19,783 promises a year's projected total of £28,500, which is up with expectations.

Manns Court bungalows Mid Suffolk are to be asked to respond to criticisms made via the Ward Members regarding the time taken to fill Council properties when vacated by tenants. The situation is highlighted by 6 bungalows at Manns Court where diesel seepage from the communal heating oil tank has rendered the properties uninhabitable, leading to disruption and upset for the residents who have been moved elsewhere regardless of their local connections. A strategy for dealing with the problem, which may include demolition, is still not determined after 6 months, despite the predicament of residents, some of whom are frail and vulnerable.

A14 noise Correspondence scheduled to the Meeting included that with Jo Churchill MP, Highways England and others regarding the degraded concrete surface of A14 between junctions 47a & 49 which causes considerable noise nuisance in Elmswell and other adjacent communities and which has been the subject of much discussion including with Elmswell Parish Council for several years. Piecemeal carriageway repairs will continue until the 2020 - 2015 Road Investment Strategy period when the necessary larger funding required for resurfacing can be allocated. The MP has been asked to try to secure alternative funding which would allow this essential scheme to be brought forward earlier.

CAB The Clerk reported on a review meeting with the Mid Suffolk Citizens' Advice team who have provided an outreach service at Blackbourne for the past 3 months. The sessions have been extremely successful with a response by way of enquiries which suggests that it is needed and valued. The initiative is jointly funded by the Parish Council and the Amenities Association with grant aid from the Elmswell Firemen. The sessions are held on the first and third Tuesday each month at cost £125.00 each, although advice is entirely free to residents. Funding is in place for 12 months after which further funding would need to be sought, although the Council has anticipated continued support in its budget for 2017 / 2018.

Council Audit The Parish Council is subject to 3 levels of audit each year. There is an internal examination by the Chairman, Vice chairman and another Councillor elected to join them in a thorough examination of any of the documentation in the Council's files across the entire sweep of financial activities, procedures and governance. Their findings are then before a professional internal auditor, appointed by the Council, who has similarly open access to files and documents and who produces a formal report which, in turn, goes to the Government appointed external auditor who can, if they have any reason to doubt the probity of the Council's affairs or to question the preceding audit findings, conduct investigation and enquiry as they see fit. The first step was agreed when Councillors had sight of a 9 page check list of items to be seen by the investigating councillors. The list is not exclusive and



the audit is unlimited in scope. Councillors expressed themselves content that the tabled document formed an adequate framework for a thorough examination in the public interest.

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

- 4645/16 ...change of use of former dairy building to 2 dwellings (revised re Building Regs.) Dagwood Farm, Ashfield Road GRANTED EPC made no comment
- 0846/13 Agreement of Reserved Matters under 0846/13 at Former Grampian Harris site, St Edmunds Drive
- 3918/15 Agreement of Reserved Matters under 0846/13 at Former Grampian Harris site, St Edmunds Drive
- 4009/16 Erection of detached dwelling... South View, Spong Lane REFUSED EPC objected
- 3888/16 Partial garage conversion... first floor side extension 23 Oxe Close GRANTED EPC Supported
- 3250/16 Erection of extension...removal of outbuildings Norwood, Church Road GRANTED EPC Supported

3473/16 ...replace cedar shingle roof tiles...remove chimney internally...Tudor Cottages, School Road

REFUSED EPC Objected
3933/16 Extensions & Alterations at Street Farm Nursery Station Road
GRANTED EPC supported

Allotment fees The meeting agreed that the tenancy fees for the allotments should rise by 5% and that this rise should be built-in every 2 years. This places the annual rents at £26.00 and £19.00 respectively for large and smaller plots with a reduction to £19.00 & £15.00 for state pensioners. Although direct comparison with other allotments is difficult, given the wide range of factors involved, these rates remain within a reasonable average of local charges. Meanwhile, the introduction of water metering to the site means that a monitoring brief must be maintained with a view to curbing any irresponsible use.

Wesley The Clerk confirmed that there are a very few points for resolution in the matter of agreeing a Contract with the Methodist Church for the purchase of the Wesley facilities on School Road. These are currently with the vendors' solicitors as part of the due process.

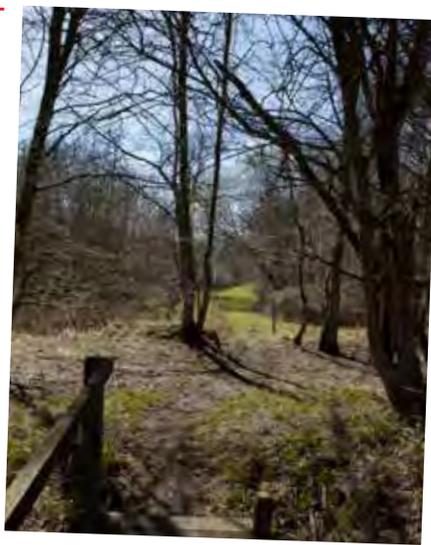
Recycling Centre The volunteers of ElmsWild were thanked for their excellent stewardship of the Station Road Recycling Centre for a 3 month stint at the end of last year. This opportunity is open to any village organisation. Councillors agreed to grant aid ElmsWild £150.00.

Precept The Meeting agreed that the precept, that is money paid to the Parish Council through the Council Tax system, should be £116,837.00 for the financial year 2017 / 2018. This represents a 3.9% uplift of the amount required last year, an increase for the average Band D tax payer of 7p. per week. The largest single element of budgeted expenditure is a sum of £60,000.00 against the initial works on what is anticipated to be a major project to bring the Wesley chapel into community use as and when the purchase is completed.

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

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

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



FOOTPATH WALK

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

SUNDAY 12th FEBRUARY beginning at 11.00 am from the village sign.

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

Council Meetings in 2017

Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
20th	20th	24th	22nd	19th	17th	18th	16th	20th	18th

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



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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.

February 2017

- 1 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre
Oliver Miller, Bishop & Miller Antiques - Tales from the Auction House Competition - A small antique item
- 3 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 6 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Games Evening with Jenny Spurgeon
- 9 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Helen Geake: "After Roman Britain, who were the Anglo-Saxons?"
- 10 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 p.m. Tai Chi - Medication in Motion. Speaker Michael Brown.
- 17 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 21 Gardening Club 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Shrub Pruning
- 23 Over 55's club Malcolm Steward entertains
- 24 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

March 2017

- 1 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre
Chris Parfitt, Along the China Silk Road Competition - An item made from silk
- 3 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 6 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Pets Therapy with Hayley Wood - 7.45pm
- 9 Over 55's Club AGM followed by Bingo
- 9 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Gareth Davies: "Pablo Fanque's Fair & early Victorian Circus"
- 10 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 pm. Experiences of our local Fireman.
- 17 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 21 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Gardening Bugs - Cohabit, Conserve, Control
- 23 Over 55's Club Fish & Chip Supper served at 7 15pm
- 25 Elmswell Baby and Toddler Group Nearly New Sale 2017
- 31 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30
- 31 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

April 2017

- 3 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - An Armchair Walk along the Ipswich Waterfront
- 5 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre
OPEN MEETING Imogen Sheeran Around the World in 80 Beads Competition - A Beaded Item

- 6 Over 55's Club Maureen Wilson entertains
- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 pm. Coffee Experience.
- 13 Elmswell History Group's 17th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm - Speaker Edward Martin: "Moated Halls of Suffolk"
- 18 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Wicken Fen - Past, Present and the Future
- 20 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 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

May 2017

- 3 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre Annual General Meeting and Resolutions plus a little something extra !
Competition - A Single Flower from the garden
- 4 Over 55's Club Mystery Day out with Carvery Lunch
- 8 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Talitha Koum
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 p.m. AGM and Resolutions. With 'handbag bingo'.
- 11 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7.30pm, Speaker Mark Mitchels: "Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, Doctor & Mayor of Aldeburgh"
July tickets on sale
- 12 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 18 Over 55's Club Barry Phillips Singer/ Entertainer Open Evening
- 19 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 26 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30
- 26 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

June 2017

- 1 Over 55's Club Harbour Lights Trio (formerly Shipshape) Open Evening
- 5 Meet at chapel at 6pm to go for a Fish & Chip Supper at The Hut, Felixstowe with the Ladies Friendship Group from Elmswell Baptist Church - phone Margaret on 241541 to order your meal - men welcome as well
- 7 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre
Jenny Steer - "Burnt In"
Demo and Story of Eucastic Art
Competition - A decorated wooden item
- 8 **Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall.** 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Paul Peachey: "Elmswell's historical Postcards"
July tickets on sale
- 9 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 pm. Turkish Cuisine and Pashminas. Speaker Jenny Gibbs.
- 15 Over 55's Club Details to follow
- 16 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Seasonal Interest in the Garden

- 16 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 20 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Horticultural Forum - Houseplant Jungle
- 23 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 29 Over 55's Club Sing a long with Hank
- 30 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

July 2017

- 5 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre
Jean Wright, Goldwork Display & Talk Competition - An example of embroidery
- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 11 Summer Social Event
- 13 Over 55's Club Welcome to the Jubilee Singers Open Evening
- 13 **Elmswell History Group - Annual Outing: To be arranged**
- 14 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 18 Gardening Club - Summer Activity
- 21 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27 Over 55's Club Details to Follow
- 28 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

August 2017

- 2 Elmswell Exchange (Afternoon) W.I. 2 pm, Wesley Community Centre
Members Meeting Garden Party at Carol's Competition - A Small Arrangement in a tea cup
- 4 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 7/11 Over 55's Club Holiday to Eastbourne
- 8 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 pm. The Dogs Trust with canine companion.
- 10 Over 55's Club NO MEETING THIS WEEK
- 18 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 24 Over 55's Club Harvest Supper
- 25 Elmswell Bingo at the Blackbourne, doors open at 6.45, eyes down 7.30

September 2017

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 4 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - The work of a Hospital Chaplain with Rev. Barbara Challis

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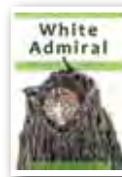
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Tuesday

Beavers 5.15 – 6.30

Slimming World 5.30 & 7.30

WI (2nd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 10.30

Gardening club (3rd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 10.00

Guides Trefoil Guild

(1st Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 9.00

Karate 7.15 – 8.15

Wednesday

Scouts 5.45 – 9.00

Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 – 9.00

Winters Academy – dance classes 4.00 – 6.00

Thursday

Brownies 5.30 – 8.00

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

Friday

Bingo (last Friday monthly) eyes down 7.30

BATS – Badminton & Table Sports – 7.00 – 10.00

Karate 5.00 – 7.00

Sunday

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

Forge Community Church one Sunday each month 1.10 – 6.00pm www.forgechurch.com

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