

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

Future-scape?



No escape?

... see editorial

... see page 18

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association
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PLEASE NOTE Our new 'phone number is 0759 389 3602 for all Amenities Association business, Newsletter and adverts
Our new email address is EAA@elmswell.org.uk



Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

If you wish to comment, please do so via the office at Goblins on the industrial estate behind the Fox or via email at; eaa.elmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

“I think the village will get bigger with more land coming under planning permission. If so, then something needs to be done to get more services. For example the doctors’ surgery is in Woolpit and that is a bit of a job for older people.”

A quote from one of our Parish Councillors. Wise words, reflecting the thoughts of many in light of recent development proposals.

Even wiser words when we note the date on which Cllr David Hawes, for it was he, said them. They were reported by the Bury Free Press on 29th June 1979.

David also suggested that, ‘We need a new generation of people to come along and help to run things’. 38 years on...David is still a councillor, still helping to run things.

His Chairman at the time, Bill Armstrong, whose public service is remembered in the dedication of William Armstrong Close, pointed out in the same article that the, ‘new developments’, at Pightle Close and Warren Close, ‘have been done well’. He, too, predicted that, ‘more private houses will go ahead...but we could do with more facilities...we need a doctors’ surgery’.

At that time the village population was, ‘nudging the 2,000 mark’. Since then, as we hurtle gently towards 4,000 souls, there is no more appropriate reference than to another Parish Councillor, Dick Burch. Dick will tell you that he has ploughed every one of the ‘new’ developments. Bennett Avenue, Miller Close, Eastern Way, Oxer Close, Blackbourne Road, were all productive agricultural holdings shaped and tended by Dick and the dozens of agricultural workers who formed a significant part of the working class of Elmswell. Two of the estates were, at various times, the village’s playing field – Pye’s Meadow & Oxer Close.

The list of potentially lost field and meadowland follows, therefore, a pattern. Borley Crescent (60 houses), Wetherden Road (220 houses), Warren Lane (38 houses), White House Farm (120 houses) and now School Road (308 houses) to add to the rapidly emerging 190 on the Bacon Factory site...all once played a key role in the village economy. Destined soon to do so only by the Council Tax they yield.

Scroll forward to the East Anglian Daily Times report just last week. It details the reasoning behind the latest of the development suggestions to come our way – the 300-plus new homes on farmland, *‘which is crossed by Parnell lane, stretches up to the railway line and is bordered on one side by the village and on the other by a stream’*. This is *‘to assist with meeting the current housing need in the district, where it is considered that this site is a sustainable location for development’*. Anticipating the possibility that there will be local concerns, *‘heritage consultants have been employed...to ensure the development*

has a minimal effect on historic properties – mainly the church and almshouses – in the area’.

The East Anglian notes that, *‘two years ago plans were put forward for 190 homes on the grounds of the former Grampian Foods factory site in Station Road’*. It makes no mention of the numbers since added to the list of offers to, ‘assist with meeting the current housing need’, as detailed above and as totalling some 450 houses without the Bacon Factory and without this latest offering.

It is clear that, notably since the arrival of the railway in 1846 and the commerce and subsequent housebuilding that ensued, Elmswell has been a place of change. Why all the fuss now, then? Why the public meetings and dire warnings that we are doomed to slide into a Dickensian / Dante-esque hell of overcrowded ghettos where malnourished children fight with the rats for food scraps and fail to secure a place at the Dame school, never mind afford a five minute slot with the Doctor from the Big House?

It’s scale, and it’s speed and it’s public awareness.



In our picture, taken in about 1890, we see, ‘AJ Mulley Builder and Contractor’, adding yet another house to Elmswell. He is there in person. Note his workforce of 12 at the latter stages of the job – earlier on there might have been some 20+ workmen on site. Enough labour nowadays to build an estate. No Diggers, no dumper trucks, no ready mixed concrete and scaffold lashed together with rope. Ask at the Bacon Factory next time you’re passing if Mr Taylor or Mr Wimpey are there, flat-hatted and shovel in hand. Possibly never visited the site, but they will have added 190 houses in 3 years or so.

We should be used to change. We have been aware of the growth that seems to be an inevitable result. We are asked, certainly by the developers and central government, to see this as an opportunity rather than a threat.

Unfortunately, some things don’t change to our advantage. New Road is no wider than in Mr Mulley’s day (he lived there). The road in front of St John’s and the alms houses, as noted by the ‘Heritage Consultants’, remains a dangerous junction and is very close to theoretical (and practical) capacity. The school and the health centre can be enlarged and / or relocated... more shops can be built, more jobs created... but without radical action, the various pinch points in our road system must signal a halt. For, ‘Signal’, & ‘Halt’, read ‘railway crossing’. Uniquely busy on this line. This line getting busier and trains getting longer.

Wherever development is proposed in Elmswell it creates traffic. Most routes lead to A14 and all routes contribute to the difficulties of coming into and going out of the village.

Before any of these major schemes are nodded through, Elmswell needs a bridge over the railway carrying a Relief Road.

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

March 28th	April 25th
May 23rd	June 27th
July 25th	August 22nd

Contact us on our new ‘phone number is

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Your editors:

Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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Reg. Charity No. 304879.

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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

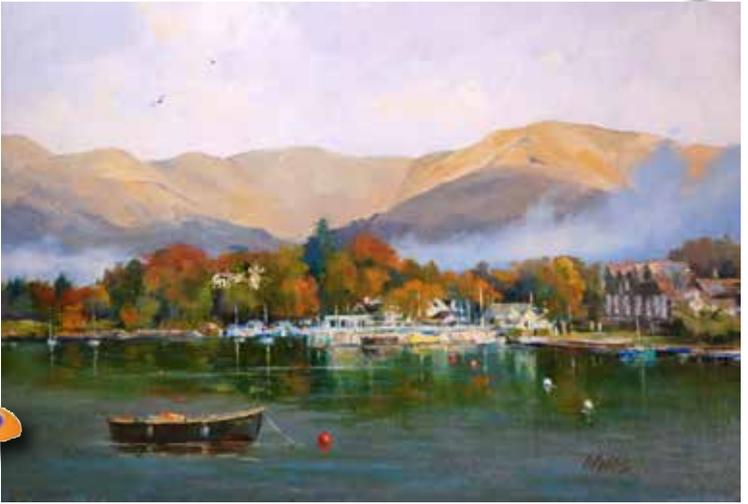
This month has been quieter than normal with a few of our lovely artists suffering with winter colds and coughs and other annoying ailments. We wish you all a speedy recovery and come back soon!

A big thank you to some of our hardier artists who have given some extra time to help paint our exhibitions boards, and long and tiring task which was helped by the sunshine on one of our extra days!

This month we have a lovely painting by Malcom Wallis, "Autumn", and Annette Finter's "Ice Road Truck" and one of my own offerings "Trulli's in Alberobello" Josephine Hale

Last month the paintings displayed were Maureen Bagnall's "Ride on a Cart", Jo Finter's "Bears" and John Welford's "Yacht".

Art Club Secretary, Josephine Hale, 01359 242592



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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

On 9 February there was a full hall again, this time for the visit of Dr Helen Geake (Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and former member of Channel 4's Time Team) to talk about 'After Roman Britain, who were the Anglo Saxons?' The Romans left us with the root of English culture, our language, our justice system, currency, the days of the week, etc. etc. Much of this is recorded by the Venerable Bede, the great Anglo-Saxon scholar.

Helen posed the question 'How did Anglo-Saxon Britain start?' and suggested mass migration from Northern Germany could be the answer.

Signs of Migration are found in the Germanic language and in the names of rivers and places. The houses were distinctive and followed the style of the 'Grubenhäuser' which was built over a pit. The remains of one were found in Firgrove, Surrey in 1924 and a similar example has been built at West Stow Anglo-Saxon village, near Bury St Edmunds.

Burial Customs, e.g. cremated bodies contained in vessels with German toilet implements have been found as have graves with grave goods such as tools, spears, jewellery, implements for spinning and weaving.

Cuisine gives further clues from the study of animal bones, grains, pollen, etc showing that the Anglo-Saxons ate what they had, unlike the more refined diet of the Romans.

When the Romans left, the kingdoms of Britain became administered by either Angles, Saxons or Jutes, with their different lifestyles, leading to the collapse of civilisation.

Helen was happy to answer questions and was thanked for her most interesting talk. Helen Geake

The Group's next meeting will be held at the Wesley Hall, School Road, Elmswell on Thursday 9 March at 7.30pm when Gareth Davies will be our speaker. The title of his talk 'Pablo Fanque's Victorian Fair and Circus. Pablo Fanque was an English equestrian performer and the first non-white circus owner in Britain.

For more information visit our website www.elmswell-history.org.uk or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359 242601.

ELMSWELL OVER 55's CLUB

Elmswell Over 55's Club

Firstly apologies for the absence of a report last month.

All our meeting details appeared in the Whats On Section but with one typing error.

March 9th will be our AGM which takes place once a year (it usually only lasts about 20 minutes to conduct the business and election of committee for

another year} Subscriptions £18pp will be collected and we will play Bingo to round off the evening.

March 23rd is our Fish & Chip Supper served at 7.15pm from Badwell Ash Fish Shop orders must be placed at the meeting on March 9th.

The Holiday to BOURNEMOUTH on August 7th is booking fast so make sure you get your name in asap A deposit of £20 secures your booking we have Single Twin & Double Rooms available at £286 50pp.

We have booked a trip to London on July 27th to visit the Chelsea Pensioners which includes Lunch and a Guided Tour the cost is £50 pp

Diann (241002)

ELMSWELL CAMERA GROUP



We had our first meeting of the year in February and it was nice to see every one again after the break.

We also welcomed some new members to the group. As we are growing in numbers we have had to move to a larger room. We have now secured the Olympic room. This is in the main building. It is the room on the right as you enter the centre.

On our March evening one of our members will be bring his backdrops and some lights to give a demonstration on studio lighting.

Members of the group will be acting as models for the evening. This should be an interesting and amusing night.

If you are interested in joining the group, then come along and say hello.

For further information phone, (01359 241431)

Hope to see you all then. Mike Randall

ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

Sylvia welcomed the members to our first meeting of 2017. We then enjoyed an afternoon playing Beetle which caused plenty of laughter and amusement. Edna Bullett was our winner.

After refreshments and raffle Sylvia told us that our next meeting will be on 21st March, when Mr. Parfitt will be speaking to us about Northumberland.

New members welcome, for further information contact Sylvia on 241505.



ELMSWELL EVENING WI

Rachel welcomed our visitors: Hilary, Pat and Jean and congratulated Louise on celebrating her sixtieth (diamond) wedding anniversary – what an achievement!

The theme for the evening was "Meditation in Motion" and Michael Brown, with the help of three assistants, proceeded to tell us about and demonstrate the ancient techniques of Tai Chi. It was fascinating, seeing them slowly go through the movements, which were peaceful and fluid. It made us feel relaxed, just watching them. Each action was symbolic of some natural form, e.g. the Yangtse River flowing from the mountains, flowers or swans. Michael told us the Chinese names for each one and tried to teach them to us(!) Eg. "Ping," meaning "feet" and "Gong bo," meaning "one foot forward."

Eventually, it was time for us to practise Tai Chi, ourselves. Michael said that we did very well and we really enjoyed it. It was possible to see that as you become more familiar with the movements and more relaxed, it could be a form of meditation. Michael said that there are many health benefits.

Tai Chi originated in China and Mongolian weapons, such as swords, staffs and bows, were incorporated into the movements, to enhance their efficacy.

Finally, Rachel gave us some dates for our diaries: 17.2, craft at Liz's; 20.2, Scrabble at Park Farm; 28.2, Scrabble at Anna's and Soup and Natter, as usual. The July Outing will be to Corncraft.

At our March meeting, the firemen will be visiting us, to tell us about their experiences! The Pat Catton Trophy will be presented for the best cat related textile.

Rosie Collins.
01359 241652



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ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

The Ice Queen is drifting north and from under her cloak a glorious array of crocuses, daffodils, irises and Gardening Club members are emerging. Our first Gardening Club meeting of 2017 was well attended – not only for the coffee and biscuits – but a talk and demonstration by Graeme Proctor from Crown Nurseries on shrub pruning. He first warned us that secateurs, our weapon of choice, should always be clean and sharp; thus preventing fungi from entering the bark. He felt there were two ways of pruning. One was the supermarket car park method - slicing or flailing off the top of bushes. The other was the more scientific RHS method, which he showed us.

You have to get down and dirty, burrowing into the shrubs. Now is the time to prune early flowering bushes, such as forsythia or flowering currants (ribes). Graeme seized a 3ft Spirea japonica 'Anthony Waterer' and sliced through the branches to within a foot of the ground, cutting off all spindly twigs and removing brush from its centre. He reminded us that after pruning you should feed your shrubs. His watchword was NPK. Nitrogen for leaf growth, Phosphorus for flowers and Potassium for strength. A straggly mahonia had nearly two-thirds of its main stem sheared off – causing a collective gasp. He explained that the mahonia would now send out side shoots and if the top bud of each side shoot was cut out, the branches would expand sideways multiplying those beautifully scented flowers. Too often climbing roses, etc. have only a few flowers 12ft in the air instead of blooms branching out horizontally. His rule of thumb was to prune a secateur-length (about 8 inches) from the top of the main branch. For unruly rosemary, just dig a large hole and bury it with only the top few inches showing and it will re-grow into a strong plant. Inspired by Graeme's demonstration we will all be out pruning and thinning before Storm Doris uproots our wayward shrubs!

Our next Gardening Club meeting will be on Tuesday, 21st March, 7.30pm at the Blackbourne, when we have a change of pace with a talk about 'Gardening Bugs – Cohabit, Conserve, Control' by Dr. Ian Bedford, Head of Entomology at the John Innes Centre. If you wish to find out about us, do come along to one of our lively meetings. Visitors pay only £3.00. Our meetings are friendly and informal, so give us a try. If the phantom poster collector has taken our notices from the noticeboards again, then further information may be obtained from Nick Chamberlin on 242601.



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE (AFTERNOON) WI



All back together again in February following our end of year break. We welcomed two new members and one or two guests. Our speaker Oliver Miller was from Bishop & Miller Auction Rooms in Stowmarket. I must say that he looked nothing like the gentlemen in our cartoon. Oliver was a tall, good looking young man, probably accounting for the large audience !!

His story began as a youngster among a family of collectors. His interest grew and not being very academic, or particularly gifted practically, he began working for Bonham's the Auctioneers. He started at the bottom and learned as he went along. Most of us would know from experience that this is the best way to gain skills.

After a spell as a Consultant Oliver took the big step and with a friend, opened Bishop & Miller. It has gone from strength to strength and his stories from the Auction House were most interesting. The competition was "A small Antique Item" and we had many entries. Oliver judged this for us, each item being described in detail. 1st was Maureen, second Mary and third Sylvia.

We also were able to look at various unusual objects that Oliver brought with him and enjoyed the chance to handle several diamond rings, all of different quality and value. A splendid beginning to our WI. year.

After refreshments all the business matters were dealt with. Next month we welcome back our old friend Chris Parfitt who is taking us "Along the China Silk Road". Well worth the trip !!! Do come and join us, we welcome guests and new members. For further details contact Barbara Yeates on 242788 or Maureen Davis on 241033.



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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hopefully by the time you have read this we will be enjoying our first Race Night – teaming up with The Maypole in Wetherden for a night of horses, music and fun all in aid of ELF and Prostate Cancer UK. Huge thanks to Donna and Levi at the pub and Oliver Jackson for all their hard work organising this event – everyone at ELF is so appreciative of your support.

Our Community Café held at Dorothy's on Station Road continue to go from strength-to-strength with lots of ladies and gents, young and old meeting up monthly for coffee, a chat and a chance to meet new people, make new friends and find out what groups and organisations are in the village. We have dates for the next four months so you can pop them in your diary early – we will be at the café at 10:30am on March 22nd, April 19th, May 17th and June 21st. We really hope you can join us.

Our Baby Bounce and Tot Rock group is also back up-and-running. Volunteer Alison Craig is here at 9:45am every Friday for a lovely session of songs and rhymes with aimed at babies and toddlers. It's totally free, so just come along and join in the fun.

Our next ELF meeting is on Wednesday, March 8th at 6:30pm. We are always looking for people to get involved, so if you are interested in helping us fundraise at all then please just come and have a chat with Emma at the library.

And our family history group continues to meet fortnightly and delight members with new and interesting facts about their ancestors. In March Julie and Peter, two very experienced volunteer genealogy amateurs, will be here from 2:30-4:30pm on March 8th and 22nd to help you research your background using the library's free access to Ancestry and Find My Past. If you are a beginner, you will need to bring your birth certificate, marriage certificate (if applicable) and as many details as you know about your parents. If you are stuck on a certain piece of your own studies then please bring the information with you.

As well as free access to Find My Past and Ancestry, the library service offers a multitude of services to customers such as a huge number of reference materials available on www.suffolklibraries.co.uk where you can download books for free via Overdrive, audio books through Borrow Box and music from Freegal. There is also Zinio, our free magazine download service, which offers dozens of popular titles absolutely free.

And finally, you may have read the widely-publicised further cuts to our grant from Suffolk County Council by £200,000. Over the past five years Suffolk Libraries has cut its running costs by more than 30% and this further cut, despite lengthy negotiations, means the organisation has reached a point where we cannot make

further efficiency savings. We know you are concerned – customers have been asking us about what impact this will have. Chief executive of Suffolk Libraries, Alison Wheeler, has released a statement saying: "We will be doing everything we can to minimise any reduction in jobs and impact on library services. At this stage, this reduction will not result in the closure of any library or stopping the mobile library service." We will, of course, keep you up-to-date with any further news, but please be assured that Elmswell Library is open as usual with the same positive and enthusiastic team.

Elmswell Library is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-1pm and 2-7pm, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2-5pm, Saturdays from 10am-1pm and Sundays from 10am-3pm.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

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

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ELMSWHEELIANS 2017 BIKE RIDES

Listed below is our initial programme of rides planned for 2017, and please note that this year, for the months up to and including August, we will be changing the timings of most of our rides to make them evening events.

Draft Programme :

Sunday 9th April (evening ride starting at 5.30 p.m. - 15 miles approx.)
Sunday 14th May (start at 11.00 a.m. - 15 miles approx.)
Sunday 25th June (evening ride starting at 5.30 p.m. - 15 miles approx.)
Friday 14th July (evening ride - starting at 6.30 p.m. - 15 miles approx.)
Friday 11th August (evening ride - starting at 6.30 p.m. - 15 miles approx.)
More dates to follow for the autumn / winter months.

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

As always, everyone welcome, but must be aged 16+.

If you like cycling, do come and join us.

There is no membership and nothing to pay; just turn up, and join a group of people who enjoy "social cycling".

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Can you help?

We're busy planning for our forthcoming BioBlitz at Lukeswood. We're going to need lots of equipment, so we're trying to beg, buy or borrow as much as we can to make sure that this exciting event is a success. If you can help us out with any of these items, please do get in touch – we'd be very grateful for anything you can offer, however small.

So here goes!

First of all, we need equipment to find and capture all of the creatures we hope to identify, so we need:

- Sweep nets (for flying insects, creepy-crawlies). These can be home-made (please let us know if you'd like to volunteer to make one – we have a template).

- Shake sheets (to place under bushes to catch bugs and beetles). These need to be white or a light colour, but can be old bed sheets or dust sheets.
- Binoculars, especially the kind that can be used close up, for example for looking at butterflies.
- Collection pots (small transparent pots with a lid) or petri dishes.
- Mammal traps – the professional type, such as Longworth or BioEco.

Then there are the hi-tech items that would be really great to use if we can get them:

- Moth trap
- Bat detectors
- Trail camera (the ones that are triggered

by movement, like they have in all the TV wildlife programmes!)

We also need equipment to identify everything we find:

- Hand magnifiers and magnifying pots
- Guidebooks and charts (especially for bugs, beetles, and all types of insect, as well as grasses and plants)
- A microscope (optical or USB).

Lastly, but not least, we're hoping to get a **generator**. This is useful for charging/plugging in laptops and microscopes, and will be essential for running the moth trap.

A long wish list! But the better equipped we are the more we will be able to find and identify. If anyone can help at all, please let us know. We will of course take special care of all loaned equipment, and if you are offering anything precious and/or delicate we will invite you to come along to the event and instruct us in its use.

Please save the BioBlitz dates – Friday 30th June and Saturday 1st July.



Mary Feeney
Tel: 241901

info@elmswild.org.uk

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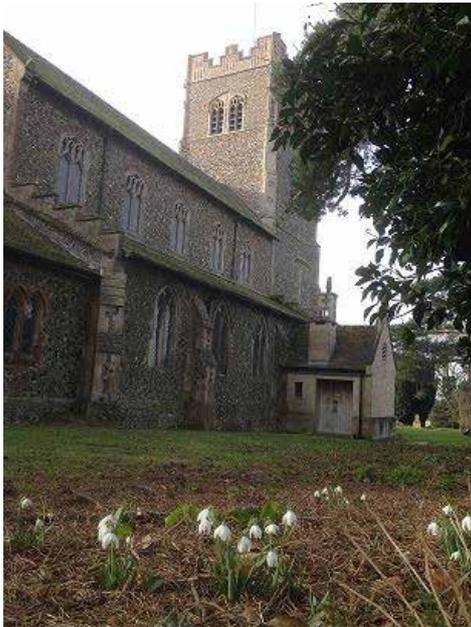


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ST JOHN'S CHURCH

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

Hello from St John's What is going on with us?

Eating and socialising!

During February we had 'breakfast church', 'ladies lunch' and 'mens breakfast'. All excellent events where we could share food and friendship. We are blessed that interesting speakers are willing to share their experiences and generous people work tirelessly with the catering. Thank you to everyone who makes our events at St John's happen... Keeping the community physically and spiritually full! The first day of lent is 1st March, so by the time you read this, we hope you've had your pancakes!

Singing!

Do you love singing? Slam Jam is an all age choir who meet to sing in a range of musical styles and genres; some Christian, some popular. All are welcome to join in the fun. No previous experience necessary. Our sessions are relaxed, friendly and free. Tell your friends and family about Slam Jam. This month, the Slam Jam sessions held at St John's are 6.00-6.45pm Sunday 12th & 26th March 2017. Some of the songs Slam Jam are singing in 2017 are: 'Wind in my sails' (with the tune set to words by local Christian poet Pam Millyard). 'True Colours' by Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly and 'Walking on Sunshine' by Katrina and the Waves :) If you prefer a more traditional sound, why not consider joining our church choir? Choir practice takes place on Tuesday evenings at 7pm at St John's. Our choir sing a range of beautiful classic and modern hymns.

Praying!

Prayer meetings take place at St Johns at 9:00am on Saturday mornings in our church. Coming up; 4th & 18th March and 1st April. Everyone is welcome. We will pray for the big things and the

little things, the old and the young, the general and the specific. If you need prayer, come. If you want to pray for something or someone else, come. If you have a prayer request, get in touch. Our regular Saturday morning prayer meetings happen fortnightly. "I took my troubles to the Lord; I cried out to Him, and he answered my prayer" Psalm 120:1 NLT

For more information about the regular activities, meetings and clubs, please visit our website or collect information from the church. There is so much going on, it's hard to fit everything into the monthly newsletter! Details of our services this month are below. Please join us - everyone is always welcome!

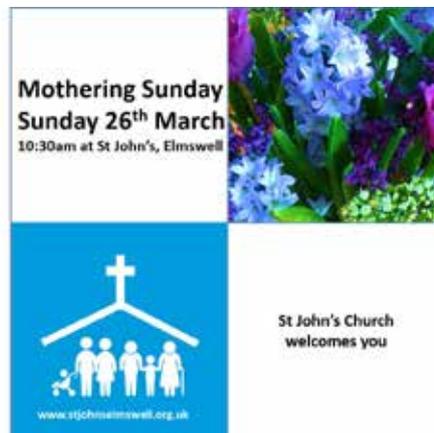
Wednesday 1st March - Ash Wednesday
7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service

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

Sunday 12th March
8:00am Holy Communion
10:30am Morning Service

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

Sunday 26th March - Mothering Sunday
10:30am Family Communion



Sunday 2nd April
9:30am All Age Service
11:00am BCP Holy 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.

During March the lights will be on between 6.30 p.m. and midnight.

A night's floodlighting costs £5. Please make cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

FEBRUARY 2017 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 10 remembering a dear Grandad, George Stiff, on his Birthday. Love, Louise & Brian.
- 11 in loving memory of my Brother. Louise. x.
- 21 in memory of my sister, Katharine Howe, taken from me on 21st February 2008. "Always in my thoughts, gone, but never to be forgotten". Your loving sister Audrey.

MARCH 2017 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 Brian Robinson. Remembering you on your Birthday, with love from all your family.
- 2 Margaret Clarke - remembered with love on her Birthday.
- 3 in loving memory of Grahame Woods on his Birthday. With love from Jane and all the family.
- 6 in loving memory of Stella Wade.
- 7 in loving memory of John Hopewell on his Birthday. With love from all the family.
- 9 in loving memory of Rob Dalby. "Always in our thoughts on this sad day". Love Mum, Dad, Victoria and Emma.
- 9 in loving memory of Bill Cammell. "Always in our thoughts". From all the family.
- 10 John Bennington. "Thinking of you with much love and happy memories on our Wedding Anniversary". Elizabeth.
- 15 in loving memory of Joyce Ivy Jackson, formerly of Bury St. Edmunds, with Elmswell roots.
- 16 in loving memory of Vic Wade.
- 23 in loving memory of Joy Cammell. "Always in our thoughts". From all the family.
- 25 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 26 Evelyn Simpson. Treasured memories of our very special Mum on Mothering Sunday.
- 26 cherished memories of our very special Mum, Dora Lily Handyside.
- 26 Mary Skinner - a special Mum remembered with so much love on Mothering Sunday.

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

ELMSWELL FELLOWSHIP



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

Last month we celebrated the 130th anniversary of a church building on our site, worship started a few years earlier when Miss Caroline Duffield Watts started a mission for young men in a cottage on the site of the old Thurlow Nunn works carpark now Blacksmiths Way, this progressed to a large tent in a meadow at the rear of that cottage, hence why our tin church is still referred to as, The Tent by some of Elmswell's older residents. Our current building was opened in Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee year 1887. In those far off days there was a membership of 90 folk and a Sunday school of 90 children Miss Watts led the church for over 30 years until her retirement in 1919 in 1922 the church joined The Baptist Union and was led by a series of fourteen Ministers the last being Rev Greg Marlam who left us in 1980, in recent years Stephen Spurgeon has given, Pastoral Oversight and leads our worship on two Sundays each month the others being led by visiting speakers.

ELMSWELL QUIZ REPORT

After several months of preparation, a quiz night, organised by myself, Chris Wiley, supported by Elmswell Parish Council, took place at the Blackbourne on January 28th. 14 teams took part and enjoyed many rounds including music, sport and recent events, with questions even included from news stories earlier in the day. Dave Taylor from Heart Breakfast hosted the event, which really brought the atmosphere to life and made it an evening to remember. Val Burch gave up a lot of her time to prepare some delicious food and ran the bar too. Many local businesses donated prizes for the raffle and there was even signed memorabilia from Ipswich Town Football Club up for grabs in a Silent Auction! Only one team could be crowned the winners, so a huge well done to team 'Big D' - they are now the proud owners of the trophy which has been revived from when there used to be an annual village quiz, which stopped in 19...?? A massive £850.00 was raised, so I'd just like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone involved in any way, shape or form - I couldn't have done it without you. This money has now been handed over to the East Anglian Air Ambulance, as

Most of the information I have written above was compiled by a stalwart of our membership Charles Rudland and a former member Mike Scott who between them compiled a small booklet in 1987 to celebrate the centenary of the church.

The booklet also tells of the support the Baptist Church provided to mission work throughout the world in its early days and example we strive to follow today.

We may be a small fellowship but we strive to offer a warm and friendly welcome to all who join us for services and our other monthly activities, which are at 7.45pm on the first Monday each month our Ladies Friendship Group (open to all ladies young and old) On March 6th they will hear a short talk by Hayley Wood on the benefits of Pet Therapy. Contact Margaret on 241541 if you would like to find out more.

9th March Our Food & Friends lunch for senior citizens takes place at Mid-day, contact Jackie on 245918 if you haven't been before we would love to see you.

Our Sunday Services for the next few weeks will be led by:-

- 5th March Rev David Thompson
- 12th March Stephen Spurgeon
- 19th March Rev Janice Davies
- 26th March Stephen Spurgeon
- 2nd April Carole Almond

As always we will be delighted to welcome anyone wishing to join us for any of our services or activities contact Tony on 241541 Jackie on 245918 or Dave on 241323 for any information you need

Dave Hollings



pictured. I've now been approached by so many people who either attended or couldn't make it, requesting it back next year...the answer's not definite, but watch this space!



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AROUND & ABOUT

MYLA'S STORY:

It was the beginning of December when Michelle noticed 7 week old Myla was poorly. After a visit to the doctors, it was suspected that Myla had a case of bronchitis. As any parent would, Michelle and Scott Chambers looked after their baby the best they could, whilst also looking after their 2 year old son, Edward. As time went on Michelle soon realised Myla's condition was getting worse and with Myla refusing milk, she took her daughter back to the doctors. This resulted to Myla being admitted into the Rainbow ward in West Suffolk Hospital. After various tests, it was discovered that Myla had several viruses. This resulted in a long 8 week stay at the unit with round the clock care as Myla needed oxygen and special milk pumped into her.

As Myla started to improve and started to rid the viruses, they allowed Michelle to take her baby home to await further tests.

Michelle was relieved to hear she and Myla could be home with her husband and son again. However, this was short lived. The day after Myla was released, Michelle took Myla out in her carseat to head out to the doctors for a follow up. Michelle was just putting her seatbelt on when she sensed something wasn't right. It was at that point every mother's worst nightmare came true. Her baby had stopped breathing! After 3 minutes of performing CPR, Michelle had managed to bring Myla round. The ambulance arrived and they were immediately rushed to Adenbrooks Hospital. After further tests, it was then discovered that Myla had an extremely rare form of vascular rings called a double aortic arch. In short, Myla's aortic arch is strangling her trachea and esophagus, so the more blood that pumps round that vessel the tighter it becomes and the less she can breathe. She is due to have major surgery in the next 4 weeks, which will be carried at Great Ormond Street Hospital. This will follow at least another 4 weeks of intense recovery for Myla, plus many more months of the unknown.



Needless to say reduced working hours, increased childcare costs for their son (Edward is not allowed to visit his sister due to infection risks) and extra costs such as fuel and canteen food is hitting the family hard. Plus they now have to look at accommodation costs so the family can be together during Myla's operation and recovery. This is why we have been raising funds for a much loved Elmswell family. So far we have raised over £1,000, but with the HUGE generosity of the Elmswell Fire station, that has now DOUBLED!

As soon as the fire station heard about Myla's condition and the family's situation, they immediately wanted to help, so on Monday 30th January at 7:30pm, an entire crew of the Elmswell Fire Station arrived in a flashing fire engine at the front door of the chambers family and presented them with an impressive and hugely appreciated cheque in the sum of £1,000!!! Emotions ran high, tears flowed and its moments like this that you realise just how lucky we are to not only live in a fantastic and supportive community, but to also have a fire station that are so passionate to help local families in need.

Throughout the year, the firemen raise money by bag packing, car washes, monthly bingo events and 999 days. They also show the local children of the Elmswell baby and toddler group round the fire station every year for free.

FIRST RESPONDERS

Your local community first responders (CFR) group is looking for new members. CFR aims to reach potential life threatening emergencies in the first vital minutes before the ambulance crew. The group is comprehensively supported by 2 local paramedics and a GP from Woolpit Health Centre. Monthly meetings provide ongoing training and support across the board including via the full time CFR manager and trainer attached to the Suffolk Ambulance Service.

Even if you can commit to just a few hours in the month, please be in touch and find out more via Merv, the coordinator on 07909 006496 or via email at wentcfr@gmail.com



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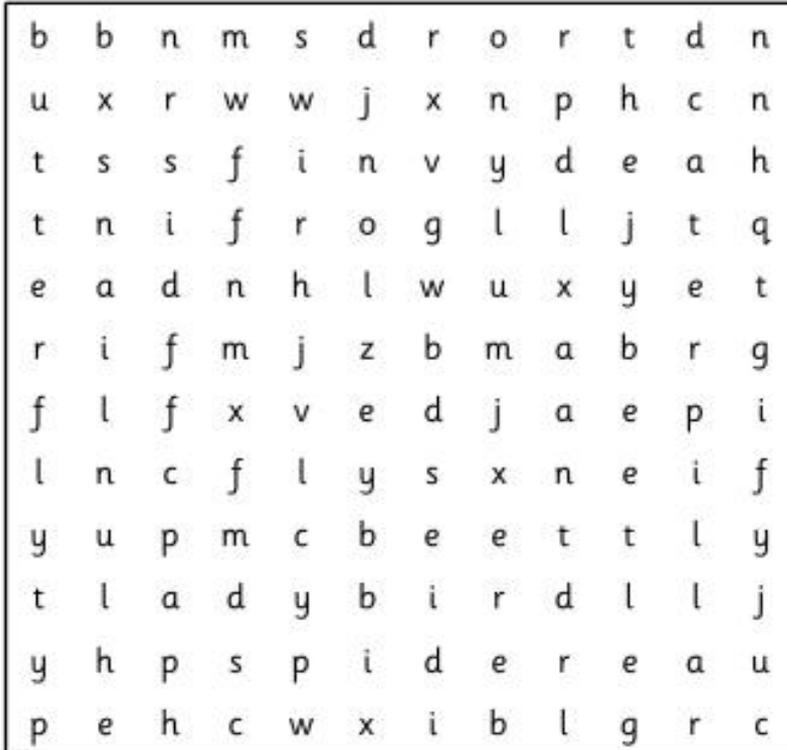


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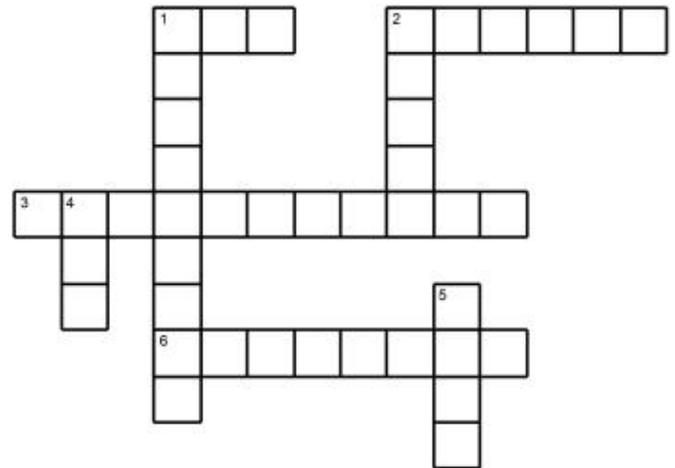
Minibeast Wordsearch



- ant bee beetle butterfly
- caterpillar fly frog ladybird
- snail spider



Minibeast Crossword



Across

1. I make honey.
2. I spin webs.
3. I'm a baby butterfly.
6. I'm red and spotty.

Down

1. I come out of a chrysalis.
2. I carry my home on my back.
4. I live in a hill.
5. A tadpole turns into me.



Make your own Minibeast Hotel

The best minibeast hotels have lots of small spaces in different shapes and sizes and made from different materials. Ideally some should be nice and dry inside, and others a bit damp. Minibeast hotels are generally made from reclaimed materials, or natural objects, which helps them blend in with their surroundings. Why not make your very own minibeast hotel using some of the ideas below.



A 'minibeast' is simply a small animal. Spiders, snails, slugs, beetles, centipedes, worms, earwigs, caterpillars...

Those are just a few well known examples of the thousands and thousands of types of 'creepy-crawlies' that exist all over the world. Officially, minibeasts are called invertebrates which are animals without a backbone, and these are the most numerous type of animal in the world.



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MARCH**

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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 SPORT



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 can also be found there.

- 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



ELMSWELL BROWNIES

This term Elmswell Brownies are going to be working towards three badges!

A visit from a local dietician, based at West Suffolk Hospital will see the girls learn about what makes a healthy diet, some information about food allergies, and a little chat about diabetes. This then all links into a visit from Paul Heeks of Elmswell Pharmacy who will be talking to the girls about safe labelling and management of medicines, whilst covering a

short piece on anaphylaxis. To move on from there – the Suffolk Accident & Rescue Service (SARS) will be coming along to see the girls, to show them their new vehicle, and to update the girls on the first aid they learnt last year, which teaching girls who have joined us since their last visit. The SARS visit received some very good feedback last year so we felt it important to have them come and see the girls again!

We have been potting seeds as part of our 'growing with guiding' theme around the 'Thinking Day' challenge provided by WAGGS (World Association of Girl Guides).

The Wastere District Guiding are looking for new leaders to join their very busy district! Without more leaders, some units are at risk of closing.

If you or a member of your family are interested in helping out at any units locally; Thurston, Ixworth, Barningham or Norton, please get in touch via the girl guiding website

www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Or search for elmswell girlguiding on Facebook for further information!



FLY TIPPING

This little bundle of joy was donated to the community on the Council's land at Clay Field recently. Thanks to all who contributed through their Council tax to have it cleared up.

We may be able to pass on everyone's appreciation in person soon enough – the expert team at Mid Suffolk think they might have identified the donor of this dirty, dangerous and irresponsible gift.

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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL – NOTICE

**An extraordinary meeting of full Council is called for
MONDAY 6th MARCH**

**Beginning at 7.30pm in the Chamberlayne Hall at The Blackbourne
Blackbourne Road IP30 9UH**

**The main agenda item will be
Planning Application ref. Mid Suffolk 0210/17
Being:**

**Application for Outline Planning permission for the development
of up to 120 residential units with
all matters reserved except access
on
Land to the east of Ashfield Road, Elmswell IP30 9HG**

**The public are entitled and welcome to attend.
There will be the opportunity for public comments and questions.**

**Further details from the Parish Clerk's Office
01359 244134
clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk**

or from the Mid Suffolk Planning website



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ELMSWELL BOWLS CLUB

Bowls Club Quiz

A reminder to all that the event starts at 7:30pm on Saturday 11 March in the Blackbourne Centre. Entrance fee is £6.50 per head and includes supper (please bring your own cutlery). Contact Brenda Begg - 01359 242025 or Doug Reed - 01359 241009 for further information or to register your team.

Bowling Green Clippings – Nick Chamberlin, Greenkeeper, 19 Feb 2017

With the snowdrops, out, you know it will not be long before we put on our thermals and start the bowls season. It is always surprising how quickly it arrives. Since we carried out the autumn

maintenance last September, we have had the usual mixture of winter weather. Early winter weather was gloomy and damp, which required constant monitoring of the green's surface so that moss growth did not grow, unchecked. We have managed to prevent too much disease from taking hold by giving it periodic doses of nutrients. During the recent cold spell, there was not much growth taking place, but it is still necessary for the green to receive nutrients during the winter months, using specialist fertilizer. However, when the green is frozen or very wet, it is difficult to use the machinery required, so timing has been difficult.

I write this in the middle of February having just given the green its first cut of the year, followed by another moss control treatment. The main

preparation work will commence at the beginning of March to provide a green which bowls well. We can carry out the usual tasks but, as always, nature will have its own influence on when and how quickly we can get things done. The aim is to be able to start bowling mid-April, but the only prediction I can make is that the green will make bowling unpredictable for the first few weeks.

We will be looking for members to lend a hand in tidying the surroundings to the green in the second half of March, to have it looking good for the new season.

Hopefully, all will turn out well and we will have a very enjoyable and successful season.

Trevor Clarke



Last of the 'Summer of 2016' Photos



PLEASE NOTE Our new 'phone number is **0759 389 3602** for all Amenities Association business, Newsletter and adverts and our new email address is **EAA@elmswell.org.uk**



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Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, at 7.30pm excepting August. The February meeting took place in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne on 20th with 10 of the 11 councillors present, along with County Council Ward Member Cllr Mrs Jane Storey (part), 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 is made up of the Council Chairman, Cllr Fred Pallett, the Council Vice-chairman, Cllr Shaun Pratt and Cllr Mike Friend, elected by his peers to join them. It seeks to cover some of the more interesting or significant items thought to deserve wider public attention. Included, where appropriate, are matters reported to the meeting by external bodies such as the 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 January Ordinary and from the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 23rd January, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Mid Suffolk District Council Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel tabled a written report which included confirmation that progress on the Council's move from Needham Market to Endeavour House in Ipswich is ongoing. The locations of the two customer access points have now been agreed. MSDC's access point for face to face meetings is to be at 54 Ipswich Street in Stowmarket. There will also be an office in Sudbury.

Meanwhile, officers and members have been working together to discuss new governance arrangements. Topics raised include the role of the Cabinet and Council in decision making, as well as the structure of the Scrutiny Committee and the definition of a 'key decision'.

Alongside this the Council is making its submission to the Boundary Commission in terms of the size of the council. The submission will be agreed at the February full Council meeting. It is likely that the number of councillors will be reduced. Once the size of the council has been decided by the Boundary Commission, the next phase will be to propose the new warding arrangements for consultation. The whole process needs to be complete in time for the next elections in 2019.

The Executive Committee will finalise the budget and medium term financial strategy before being agreed at the next Full Council meeting.

The Green Group are concerned about the amount of funds which are building up in the 'Transformation Budget'. This is currently almost £9M and is set to rise above £10M against an annual budget of just under £10M. These funds have been accrued from the last few years' New Homes Budget and have been set aside in a reserve budget and remain unspent.

County Council Cllr Mrs Jane Storey tabled a written report which included reference to recent

figures published on the Department for Education's website confirm that Suffolk's GCSE progress has for the first time risen above the national average. Suffolk is now ranked in the top half of all authorities for progress at GCSE level, at 55th out of 151. This is a real improvement since 2014 when Suffolk was ranked 119th for English progress and 108th for Maths. Across Suffolk, 60.1% of students achieved the national measure

of attaining a grade C or above in English and Maths. This is 3% higher than last year and marks a 6% increase since 2014. Suffolk students have also closed the gap to the national average state funded schools from 6% in 2014 to just 3% this year. Suffolk continues to be above the national figure of 59.3% for all schools. This is a real sign that Suffolk is making good progress. We are now into the fifth year of the Raising the Bar programme which aims to improve levels of educational attainment and ensure that every child in Suffolk is able to achieve their full potential. We will not become complacent and will continue to build on the momentum of the positive results we have seen since the programme started and will continue to ensure that every child and young person in Suffolk reaches their full potential.

In another area of public concern, Suffolk's Director of Public Health released his annual report on 26 January 2017 setting an ambition to improve mental health services in Suffolk over the next 10 years. 'Suffolk Minds Matter: Suffolk Annual Public Health Report 2016' was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board proposing recommendations for long-term improvement to mental health in Suffolk.

An estimated 1 in 100 people are affected by severe mental ill health in Suffolk and around half of lifelong mental ill health conditions develop before the age of 14. The report makes interesting, and sometimes chilling, reading.

Social media comment Members of the public spoke to distance themselves from unsavoury and inaccurate comments recently posted on Facebook by an individual who sought to implicate them in an attack on the integrity of Elmswell Parish Councillors. The remarks had been removed by the site administrators and those who had been misrepresented as supporting the attempts to besmirch the Council expressed support for the Councillors in their efforts to secure the best deal under difficult circumstances from aggressive developers.

Planning application – Orchard Cottage, New Road

Councillors objected to the proposal (ref. 5056/16) for the erection of a bungalow - a revised scheme to that approved under ref. 3021/16 - for the following reasons:

- 1 This application seeks to make worse an already hazardous highways situation

on a pedestrian route linking the north of the village to the primary school and nursery. For at least 10 years prior to January 2016, the householder of Orchard Cottage was housebound and did not drive. Consequently, the original access to Orchard Cottage was not used. Subsequently, in consideration of the new access proposed for an extension to the dwelling (ref. 4170/15), the unused access was to be 'permanently and effectively stopped up...in the interests of highway safety ...and to avoid multiple accesses which would be detrimental to highway safety' (Decision Notice 15.01.16 refers). The proposed extension was not built and the defunct access to Orchard Cottage was resurrected to provide vehicular access and parking to serve Orchard Cottage. There is no provision for vehicles to enter and leave Orchard cottage in a forward gear. The available space is now normally taken up by 3 cars which back out on to the New Road / The Street / Cooks Road Junction risking collision with vehicles sweeping around the bend from the north. Elmswell Parish Council objected to the application ref 3021/16 for a new dwelling in the back garden of Orchard Cottage utilising the access granted on the understanding that the original would be stopped up. SCC Highways noted that Orchard Cottage, on the plans supporting this application, appeared not to have an access. The Applicant assured them that the original access existed and they subsequently deemed that the scale of the proposed development was such that the two vehicular accesses in close proximity would not, as might be expected, create an intervisibility issue.

Elmswell Parish Council contends that this is an ill informed and dangerous conclusion reached with minimal reference to the local conditions which maintain at this junction.

Annexed to this Objection is a paper reporting on a meeting held at this location in 2013 when the community pressure for action to address the dangers was sufficient to prompt the attendance of Highways officers, the Police, County & District Council Ward Members, Parish councillors and many members of the public. The first step towards lessening the clear danger, identified at para. 9, was never implemented, despite pressure on SCC



Highways to act. That danger remains. It is exacerbated by 4 years of growth in population and traffic on this busy fast junction. The pressure on the highway infrastructure from the 700 dwellings which are at various stages of development in the village significantly multiplies the hazard here proposed. That hazard, real, present and growing, militates decisively and crucially against this proposal. This objection is in full accordance with both para. 32 of the NPPF and with saved policy T10 of the MSDC Local Plan.

- 2 The scale of increase in footprint and mass over and above that presented by the previous proposal under 3021/16 presents an overbearing presence on the site and is overdevelopment contrary to saved Local Plan Policies GP1, H13 & H15.

Planning applications Council supported the following applications forwarded for comment by Mid Suffolk District Council, the Planning Authority:

- 0087/17 Erection of detached dwelling (re-submission) at South View, Spong Lane, IP30 9DX [Cllr Shaun Pratt declared a Pecuniary Interest as the Applicant and left the room when this matter was discussed]
- 0165/17 Re-roofing 1 -4 Tudor Cottages in School Road. Replacing cedar shingles with clay pantiles [following advice from the Suffolk Preservation Society]
- 0494/17 Change of use of part of land from agricultural to domestic. Creation of a tennis court at Willow Wood Farm, Grove Lane.

Planning application – Kiln Lane Councillors considered an application for a 7 bedroomed dwelling on land at Kiln Lane. Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, have already decided to reject this proposal but a

technical glitch on their part meant that the Parish Council had not been consulted in time for their views to be taken into account. The Meeting agreed that comment should be registered against the possibility that the decision is Appealed when the Parish Council's considered opinion should be material consideration.

The unanimous view supported rejection on the grounds that the proposal is not 'sustainable' within the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework in that it seeks to build a dwelling with no reasonable access to facilities other than by car and that the extremely narrow nature of Kiln Lane, clearly a single-track country road with no defined passing places makes any extra traffic loading dangerous. The use of the lane by HGV traffic having access to the scrap metal yard and to the Anglian Water facility, together with the regular agricultural use of large tractors with trailers or implements in tow, renders Kiln Lane a hazardous route along which no further traffic should be encouraged. That having been determined, the relevant Policy considerations are contained in the 1998 Mid Suffolk Local Plan where development in the countryside, such as proposed here, will not be permitted. The Clerk was asked to make these points, together with the unacceptable levels of pollution from the diesel traffic on A14 immediately adjacent, to Mid Suffolk to lie on file for presentation to the Planning inspectorate as and when appropriate.

Recycling The Trefoil Guild, a senior branch of Guiding, meets at Blackbourne and took on the latest 3 month's stewardship duties at the Council's Station Road recycling facility. Councillors agreed to make a grant of £150.00 to the group's funds. Any community group is invited to volunteer for this scheme which helps keep our bottle, clothing and paper banks the cleanest in Mid Suffolk.

Audit One of the 3 annual audits of Council took place on 30th January when the Chairman, Vice chairman and Cllr David Barker spent an evening inspecting documents in the Clerk's office giving them unrestricted access to all finance and governance papers following a schedule previously agreed by Council. Their report was received by the Meeting and is published on the Council's website. It found all to be in good order and recommends a review of the Clerk's hours in light of the consistently increasing workload, the disposal of various redundant hardware which has been stored at the Clerk's business premises where it can no longer be accommodated and that both Clerk and councillors be encouraged to begin claiming travel allowance when on Council business.

Clerk's office... The Meeting noted a paper tabled by the Clerk explaining that, in line with the succession planning which had prompted the recent addition of an office extension at Blackbourne, he would be moving into Blackbourne in early March. This brings to an end 12 years of tenure at the Clerk's business premises where a comprehensive service has been made available, at no charge to the community, for at least 8 hours on all weekdays and often at weekends. The adjustments to public access will be publicised.

Next meeting The next meeting is scheduled for 15th 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 01359244134 email EAA@elmswell.org.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.



The Parish Clerk's office is moving... from 6th March it will be housed at The Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road IP30 9UH - right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. The office will be staffed: Mondays & Wednesdays 9.00am - 4.00pm, Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.00am - 12.00 noon and at other times by arrangement.

Other contact details remain the same: telephone; 01359 244134 email; clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



FOOTPATH WALK

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

SUNDAY 12th MARCH 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

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

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.

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 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 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
- 21 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr. Parfitt Northumberland. Raffle
- 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 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell History Group's 17th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm - Speaker Edward Martin: "Moated Halls of Suffolk"
- 14 Good Friday Service 10am in St John's Church - Christians Together in Elmswell
- 18 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Wicken Fen - Past, Present and the Future
- 18 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr. Jackson Woolpit Nurseries. Raffle
- 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
- 6 Concert in St John's Church for Friends of St John's - Alastair Blay (piano) 7.30pm
- 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 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 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
- 16 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Seasonal Interest in the Garden
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing to Corn Craft
- 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 Encaustic Art Competition - A decorated wooden item
- 8 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 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
- 10 AGM Friends of St John's Church, in the Church at 9.30am followed by Coffee Morning
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30 pm. Turkish Cuisine and Pashminas. Speaker Jenny Gibbs.
- 15 Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper and Bingo
- 16 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 20 Gardening Club, 7.30pm Blackbourne Talk: Horticultural Forum - Houseplant Jungle
- 20 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr. Newman Prison Officer. Raffle
- 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 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 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
- 18 Elmswell Exchange Social Club A.G.M. Strawberry Tea. Raffle
- 19 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing T.B.A.
- 21 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27 Over 55's Club Visit to the Chelsea Pensioners includes Lunch and Tour
- 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 Normal meeting with Bingo
- 15 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Shared Lunch. Raffle
- 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

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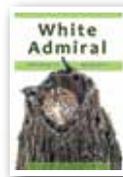
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Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 – 9.00

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

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Sunday

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

To make a booking enquiry

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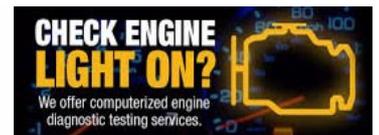
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