

'Like a friend
dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter

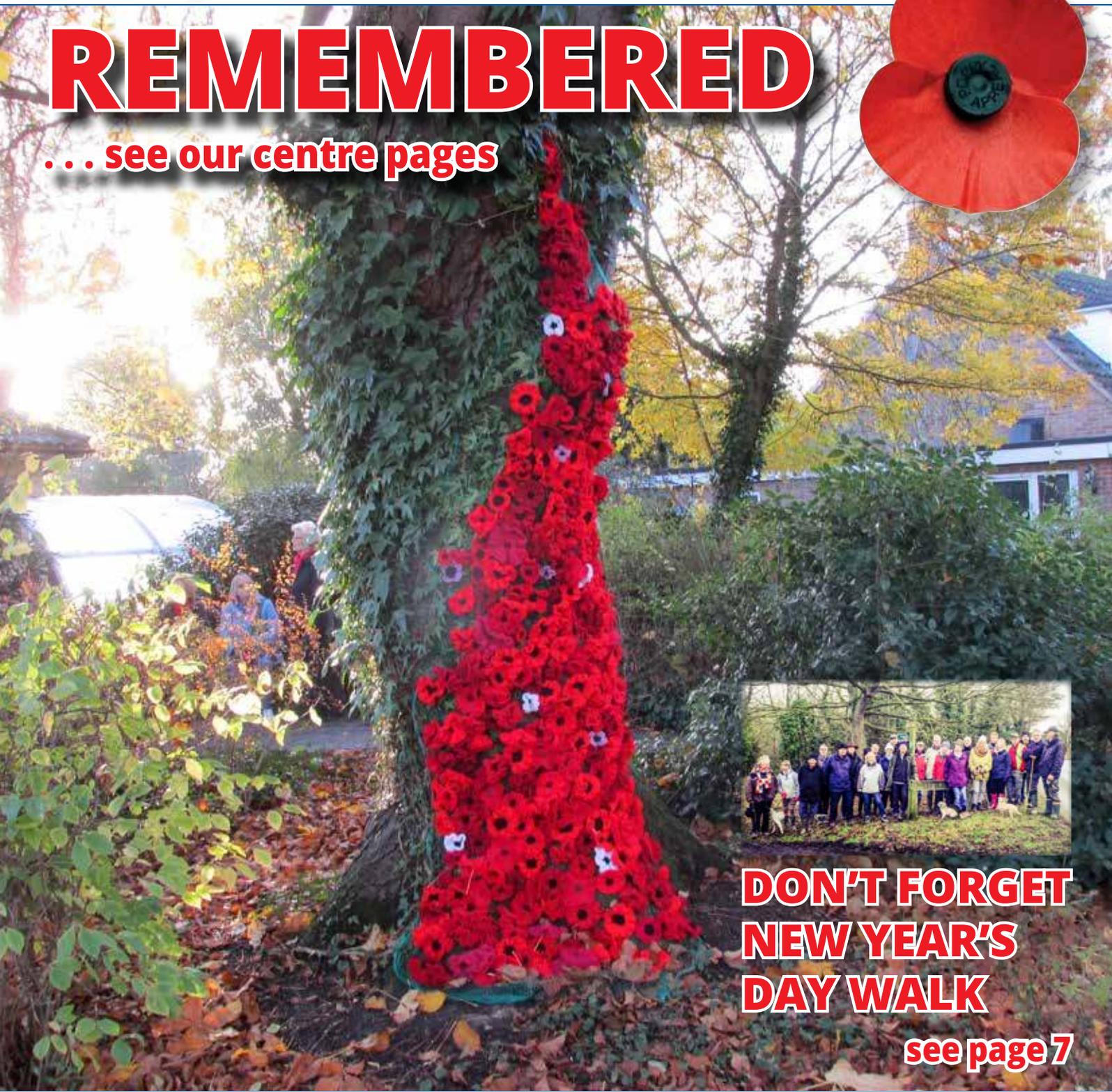


Thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

December 2018

REMEMBERED

... see our centre pages



**DON'T FORGET
NEW YEAR'S
DAY WALK**

see page 7

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
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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 or via email at; eea.elmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

We accept no argument, particularly any childish joyous chorus of argument which seeks simply to contradict, gainsay or otherwise negate our simple contention that it is the pantomime season.

That having been settled, we note the sad lack of any such theatrical delights since the demise of the Elmswell Dramatic Society some several years ago and we pledge, ever keen to promote high culture in the community, to provide some brief outlines of well-known pantomimes with topical suggestions as to how they might still find resonance in the hope that some village worthy might decide to revive the panto tradition in the village. How about...

SNOW WHITE & THE 7 DWARFS; *The comical workforce, with many a 'Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work we go', are drafted in by Suffolk County Council Highways to mend a pothole. Unfortunately, Dopey is nominated chargehand and decides that the job might best be done in stages. Bashful & Sneezzy put up the 'ROAD CLOSED' warning signs on Monday for Grumpy & Sleepy to nip out the following day and excavate the hole to a manageable depth so that, on Wednesday, Happy and Doc can tip some short-life sticky filler in, leaving Dopey the task on Thursday to certify the whole thing well done and ask for the signs to be taken back to the depot before the weekend. Job done, and the beaming workers receive a well-deserved twinkling thank you from Ms S White before marching off, a 'Hi Ho' on their little lips, for a hard-earned rest. What a pantomime!*



THE OLD WOMAN WHO LIVED IN A SHOE; *We skip over the back-story of this lone parent who has, somehow, a family of eight young children to look after. Clearly a suitable case for assistance with her accommodation and, living in Elmswell, no problem with housing...they are being built at a rate of one -a-week for the next 10 years. However, her need does not compare with that of the developers who are building the houses. They promised the 30%+ 'affordables' which the rules say they should provide but, sadly, as the project is developed in further detail, there are, 'viability issues'. The builders can't afford the 'social housing'. Our Old Woman and her kids can't afford the £300,000.00 needed for one of the 5 bedroomed 'executive' homes. Back to the shoe. What a pantomime!*

CINDERELLA; *Poor old Cinders' miserable life is all over social media. #Cinders Me Too has gone viral. A crowdfunding appeal has raised enough for the purchase of a coach-and-four. A ball gown has been donated by Sequins R Us and a Mr Choo has come up with a pair of glass slippers. The Ugly Sisters cower daily beneath the vicious derision of a whole community of Trolls but take some consolation from the 'Uglies Are Still People' movement. Amazon have pumpkins @ 50p. but their '4 white mice for a quid' deal has been taken down after the Rainbow Rodent Alliance raised a terrible fuss. What a pantomime!*



GOLDSILLOCKS AND THE 3 BEARS;

Clearly a young person at risk, young Goldilocks wanders a fairy tale forest unaccompanied...possibly under stress because, for some reason, she has lost her mobile phone and has to look after herself without resorting to Google or the Teens Under Pressure Helpline and is unable to Tweet her predicament. And what a predicament...faced with porridge and no guidance as to its provenance. Is it organic? What of allergens, or the sugar content, and what, heaven forefend, if it has salt in it? And then the chairs; a serious health & safety issue as they fall to pieces depositing the poor lass on the floor. Finally, the beds. Probably crawling with whatever bears carry in their greasy fur - we know what they do in the woods; an invitation to the horrors of sleep deprivation and hours of counselling. Quite a relief to get out of there, even though pursued by bear. What a pantomime.

We offer the above in the hope that a little local context, a dash of relevance, some social updating can tempt our reader to consider dusting off the typewriter and producing a pantomime for our times. The list is not conclusive. We considered Dick Whittington but felt he had little chance of making it to London on time because of the crossing gates. Aladdin is too wishy washy and Puss in Boots would invite the animal lot to lobby for a Newsletter boycott. As for Mother Goose, we need say no more.

Nevertheless, with or without a pantomime, we wish our readers a *Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.*



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: December 18th, January 22nd, February 19th, March 19th, April 23rd, May ??

Contact us on 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** Your editors: Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Our art show and sale held during the last weekend in October was very successful in a number of ways, not least in that we were able to generate income just above break even. So that was very satisfactory. Our aim was to display at least 200 paintings and we exceeded our target. More members exhibited their work than ever before and that too was pleasing. What's more we sold 23 paintings ranging in price from £20 to £200. The number of pictures sold, according to members with more experience of other clubs and societies than me, represents an outstanding achievement, way above the norm. We must be doing something right! It has to be emphasised that what we show is the individual members' choice and shows what we do in general rather than what we feel happy to sell. For instance among the paintings I displayed three were not for sale. One is one of my wife's favourites which has pride of place in our living room, one is a favourite of mine of a scene showing a boat on

a lake in the Andes and the third was done as a commission for my American daughter-in-law and was a watercolour of poppies. What was so pleasing was the visitor comments which could be summarised by the comment given by the secretary of an art club based in a village some way away from Elmswell, "what a fabulously eclectic display of superb pictures with such a wonderful range of subjects and materials used. Truly inspirational."

The raffle was a great success and source of income, enhanced by the donation of two superb paintings by Malcolm Wallis and Anna Hawes. We thank them both for their generosity. One of the fun things we do is to get visitors to vote for "Best Picture in Show". It was a close run contest and the winner, shown here, was by Tatiana Creed.

John Welford 01359 240166



The only time I feel alive is when I am painting. Vincent Van Gogh

Art club meets Tuesday mornings at the Wesley



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month the club welcomed Mr. Parfitt back to speak to us about the Scilly Isles. He had returned in May this year, travelling to Penzance by sleeper train and then using ferries etc.

There are 145 islands, many are uninhabited. There are plenty of birds to be seen, which include oyster catchers, puffins, cormorants and guillemots.

One of the islands he visited was Samson. The last 3 families left in the 1850's. We were shown the ruins of houses as well as some Bronze Age graves. Other islands visited included Tian, St. Mary's, St. Martins and Bryher.

Mr. Parfitt explained that the flower trade had dropped so other ventures had been started such as ice cream and fudge production.

It was a pleasant way to spend a dull November afternoon and our thanks to Mr. Parfitt for our tour of the Scilly Isles.

Members were reminded about the trip to a Scotsdale on November 28th and our Christmas lunch on December 4th. Members were asked to arrive at 1.15 to allow the committee time to set up.

New members always welcome.

Enquiries to Carol 242 884

ELMSWHEELIANS 2018

Our final outing of the year, will be our annual pre-Christmas ride on **Sunday 23rd December (starting at 11.00 a.m. - 10 miles approx.)**

The ride, as always, will start from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell, and finish, in time-honoured tradition, at "The Fox" for some well-earned festive refreshment.

If you enjoy cycling, do come and join us. We welcome new faces. There is no membership and nothing to pay; just turn up, and join a group of like-minded people. We do ask, however, that you are aged 16+. You will be very welcome.

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



ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

The month of November has gone quickly with the club having had a Bingo Evening on the 15TH followed by a trip to Felixstowe on the 22ND to the Spa Pavilion to sit back and enjoy an afternoon at the Old Time Music Hall which was thoroughly enjoyed by a packed audience.

On Thursday November 29TH we welcomed back the Jubilee Singers who put on a festive concert ready to get everyone in the mood for Xmas.

We start December with a trip to Thursford on the 6TH which is then closely followed on the 13TH by our Traditional Xmas Concert by Norton Salvation Army which starts at 7 30PM so please come along and join us in the Chamberlain Hall. On Saturday Dec 15TH we round off the year with our Xmas Party with catering by Home Farm Catering followed by entertainment by Jim Bob Duo till late.

We will now take a break until February which will give us time to put together a new programme for 2019.

Diann (241002)



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ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

It was only November, but Christmas came early to a noisy crowd of gardening club members who filled the hall in anticipation of an entertaining evening. Before mayhem could commence we had to dispose of the AGM. Brenda Begg, after 10 brilliant years, stood down as Chair of our Club and received a hearty round of applause to thank her for her hard work and leadership over the years. Our new Chair is Catherine Reynolds who we are sure will be a worthy successor. Nick Chamberlin has agreed to remain as Treasurer for another year; a mighty relief as he keeps our accounts in good order. We even have enough in the kitty to pay the increased costs of our wonderful speakers. Gay Beer, with the help of Margaret Randall, is now in charge of seeking out these gardening experts. Gay and Margaret's aim is to fill the Gardening Club speakers' calendar for 2020 and beyond – all suggestions welcome. We had a plethora of enthusiastic volunteers to act as committee members – enabling the Club to spring into 2019 with high hopes.

Catherine gave us a synopsis of the brilliant speakers we may expect next year. Not only will we learn about pruning trees and shrubs and companion planting but even sneak a peep into a Suffolk Secret Jungle –surely not in Elmswell! Catherine said sometimes she felt she was teetering on a cliff edge waiting for the speakers to arrive but so far we have been lucky.

Nick told us that the station flower boxes are in a delicate state but are still planted out with pansies and wallflowers to brighten up travellers' winter journeys. We may get new tubs in the Spring, to contain Elmswell's dazzling flower displays. Have you noticed the new green bench where one might rest whilst admiring the 60+ wagons of passing trains? We hope to have a dedication ceremony early next year. After notices, Margaret hosted a flower based quiz. Unfortunately, despite being a generous quizmaster, no-one achieved full marks. Oh dear, that's why we come to Gardening Club to learn about the flora and fauna surrounding us. We were also treated to Nick's slide show

of his summer visit to Stourhead in Wiltshire. This is an imposing Palladium mansion with spectacular gardens which was commissioned by Henry Hoare in the 18th century. Stourhead has been described as a 'living work of art' where meandering paths lead to classical temples and grottos. The centrepiece of the gardens is a large lake which illuminates the beauty of the wooded hills. Our thoughts were reflected in the lake and those hot lazy days of summer - although no sight of Mr. D'Arcy.

Gardening Club has now closed its potting shed until **Tuesday, 19th February, 2019**. Time to hang up your wellies and hunker down with next year's seed catalogues. We hope everyone will enjoy a peaceful Christmas and a blooming New Year. If you require further information about the Gardening Club please contact **Nick Chamberlin on 242601**. See you all in 2019.



ELMSWELL W.I.

We were in full voice, when we sang "Jerusalem" and then Val welcomed Maureen to her first meeting for some time, after her stay in hospital. It is so good to see her improving and gaining strength, day by day.

We were all prepared for a physically-active meeting: circle-dancing with Jan Lerner. First of all, she told us about the origins of the dances, which are to be found in Eastern Europe, Israel and Greece, to name some of the countries. The cycles of nature are common themes: everyday activities such as planting seeds and harvesting and the seasons. The beauty of the dances is that most people are able to participate, doing the simple steps and joining hands in a circle. The pace is quite slow, often just walking, and the movements repetitive, resulting in a pleasing rhythm, which is very relaxing and sometimes meditative.

Before we began, Jan placed a beautiful arrangement of flowers and scarves in the centre of the room, as a focus for the dancers. One of the dances was about picking apples. There were four main movements and when we had mastered them, we were able to perform some of them in the order we chose, which was interesting! We found the dances easy to learn and enjoyed them very much.

Jan visits lots of different groups, including people in nursing homes with dementia, and she has cleverly adapted some of the dances for those who could not otherwise take part. The movements are performed while the participants are seated and they thoroughly enjoy joining in with others and listening to the music.

Several ladies at the meeting said that they would like to join one of Jan's local classes,

because they found circle-dancing so enjoyable.

After a break for refreshments, Val congratulated everyone who had made poppies for our W.W.1 display in the Memorial Garden. There have been many positive comments and I have seen quite a few people in the garden admiring the cascade of poppies flowing down the trunk of the tree in the middle. Some of the poppies are white, to represent people who helped in the war but did not fight and some are purple, to represent the many horses and other animals, who died as a result of the conflict. A great effort!

We are now looking forward to our Christmas celebration in December

Rosie Collins 01359 241652



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE (AFTERNOON) W.I.



We had a full house for our **November meeting** and after greeting those members with birthdays in the month, we welcomed Graham Higgins who introduced us to **The Real Robin Hood**. In truth, he never existed. Graham gave us an interesting potted history of the era involved and the stories of various Kings including Richard (the Lionheart) and King John who apparently wasn't

as bad as he was painted. In those times, because all outlaws taken to court needed a name they were called Robin Hood. However, there did exist a King Fulk 111 who had his

home (Whittington Castle in Shropshire) taken from him by the Crown. In anger he took to the forests and began robbing people. He did not give this to the poor but kept it. Eventually, he was pardoned by King John and the castle was returned to him. His "Robin Hood" phase was put behind him. To most of us Robin Hood brings back memories of Errol Flynn, Richard Greene, Kevin Costner and numerous others. The earliest we believe was Douglas Fairbanks Jnr. in 1922. He may be a fictional character but we all loved him and still do. Who will be the next star to play this role, I wonder?

Our competition was a Robin Hood Hat made from paper.

The entries were impressive. Graham judged this for us and first was Margaret Hitchins, second Lesley and third Dot. Congratulations to all of them.

After refreshments Mary took us through the business matters and also welcomed two new ladies, Mary and Shelley.

Our next meeting is our Christmas Celebration. We will, therefore, be pushing the boat out. There will be food, music, and home made entertainment some of it hopefully on the silly side. We aim to enjoy the afternoon and hope to hear lots of laughter.

We welcome guests and new members. We are a friendly, informal group and more details can be obtained from Mary on 245022 or Maureen on 241033.





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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

At our meeting on 8th **November** we welcomed Kelvin Dakin who came to speak about ‘The History of Fisons of Bramford’.

The business was established by Edward Packard and was one of the first firms to manufacture superphosphates derived from coprolite. The business was incorporated in 1895.

The components of the product were bone meal and sulphuric acid, which promoted quicker growth to plants and had been patented by John Bennett Lawes in Hertfordshire in 1842.

Packard and his son bought up several smaller firms, some of whom were making a similar product and soon their own factory in a rented flour mill at Snape outgrew the premises, leading them to purchase a tide mill from Joseph Fison at Stowmarket in 1851.

Bramford was seen as a prime site to enlarge the firm – at the junction of the River Gipping and the Ipswich to Norwich Railway line, the property was purchased.

The story continues with Fisons buying up similar businesses in Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and parts of the Somerset Levels, where they extracted peat.

In the early 1980’s the company decided to focus on pharmaceutical products and the fertiliser business was sold to Norsk Hydro in 1982 and then in 1995 the firm was acquired by US based Rhone Poulenc, which was eventually swallowed up in the giant chemical firm Rhone-Poulenc SA.

The buildings in Paper Mill Lane are now in a state of rapid decline, being ranked among Britain’s most endangered buildings. Our speaker has launched a petition to preserve the Northern Warehouse (which has been vandalised and set on fire many times) and to secure the site as a heritage asset.

Our next meeting will be held on 13th December – ‘The true story of Hereward the Wake of Ely’ told in words and music by the folk group ‘The Fenland Phezzants’ and will include mention of local King and Martyr, St Edmund. Hereward the Wake’s daring commando raids against the

Norman Conquest gloriously crowned by his will o’ the Wisp escapes along secret fen paths, is the stuff of legends. This riveting retelling of the tale, based on contemporary Latin sources later compiled by 12th century monks contains much more than other national legends as well as the added thrill of romance and magic!

As is usual for our December meeting we will have our traditional seasonal buffet to enjoy with punch and three chances to win a prize in our free Prize Draw of vouchers from local shops. As always attendance at this meeting is by advance purchase ticket only, ie none available on the night. If you would like to join us for this evening’s entertainment, please ring 01359 242601 asap for your ticket, price £3 for members, or £5 for visitors.

New members are welcome to our meetings on the second Thursday of every month at the Wesley Hall. More information from Stella on 01359-242601 or from our website: www.elmswell-history.org.uk.

ELMSWELL BABY & TODDLER GROUP



By the time you read this newsletter we will all be covered in glitter and paint creating some lovely decorations and artwork for Christmas. Preparation will be well underway for our annual Christmas party, on Sunday the 9th December,

where we have a disco, a visit from Father Christmas and of course no party is complete without party food! If you are interested in coming along please get in contact with the group.

During November we had a visit from a local pottery company who had a selection of items to decorate: many handprints, footprints and artwork were captured making some beautiful presents for Christmas. We also have made some rockets to join in with bonfire celebrations. Other activities for our older children throughout the month were puzzles, farmyard, dinosaurs, ride-on toys the list is endless. We also have a baby zone set up with a variety of toys and a sensory box to entertain the young ones.

Our last session of 2018 is Monday the 17th December. After a short break over the Christmas

period we will be open again from the 7th January. We welcome you all to our group which runs on a Monday morning and Wednesday morning 10-11.30.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Hello Elmswell!

I do hope you’ll pardon the cliché when I say it’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas. We have pulled out the festive books, and the Elf has found his way back to one shelf or another. From a bookworm’s perspective, the darker evenings make reading an even more attractive prospect than usual, particularly when undertaken with a hot drink and a pair of warm slippers. It seems wise to stock up on a few books, for breaks between frantic shopping, decorating and visiting friends and family.

Elmswell library will be hosting their annual Christmas mince pie and tea/coffee ‘pop in’ during our opening hours for the month of December.

If you would like a quiet place over the festive period to relax and recharge, to meet new people or simply see what our library can offer you then staff will be happy to help you.

As well as the offer of a cup of tea/coffee/mince pie you are welcome to choose a book from our well stock book donations to take home.

We do hope to see you soon. And if you find that you have no desire to relinquish your fuzzy socks and make your way down to the library in person, remember that Suffolk Libraries also offer ebooks, audiobooks, newspapers, magazines, and music all available through your iPad or tablet, for a very comfortable price (free).

Elmswell Library staff would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy Holiday!

Zoe, Sandra, Lisa, Sara-Jane, Miles and Kathy.



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BLACKBOURNE & WESLEY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

The BWMA comprises representatives of some 17 village organisations which use Wesley or Blackbourne plus others elected from the community at large, 3 Parish Councillors and the Parish Clerk.

At their meeting on 10th October, the Chairman informed the committee that the Parish Council's Working Party has recommended a preferred Quantity Surveyor to price up the refurbishment of the Wesley and that the first-estimate build cost provided will be used by councillors to decide what level of development the scheme can realistically afford. As there is the possibility of the need for changes to the skeleton floor plan so far presented, there is little call on the BWMA for further advice until the final shape and scale of the new-build is determined.

It continues to be the case that the chapel must remain as the focal point as a clear letting space and the new-build will accommodate the facilities around it.

The Fire Crew are to be approached seeking their agreement to allow use of their meeting facility at the fire station for temporary use during the closure period.

The problematic Wesley Hall heating will have to be endured for another winter. 2 new units have been fitted, but auxiliary heaters which came with the hall are sub-standard and threaten to overload the circuit. The Chairman will remove them.

A first quote for the Jubilee Hall storm-damaged roof repair is now to hand and 2 further quotes are being sought. A ceiling-mounted projector in the Chamberlayne Hall and a pull-down screen for the Olympic Room are the subject of suggestions to County Councillor Jane Storey for funding from her locality budget.

Treasurer Nick Brooks declared letting receipts to 8th November of £32,615 for the Blackbourne and £4,591 for the Wesley giving projected incomes of £51,042 and 7,548 respectively for the full financial year. We have transferred £8K to the EPC in monthly payments and a top-up transfer of £60K with the suggestion that it is ring-fenced for the Wesley project leaving us a balance of £13,481.

Blackbourne bookings remain buoyant with MSDC adopting it as a venue of choice for their Planning Inspectorate Enquiries given the move of their HQ to Endeavour House in Ipswich.

Health and Wellbeing groups are flourishing and it is now the case that weekday evening bookings are effectively at capacity until Wesley is ready to allow some breathing space.

Maintenance issues remains at a low level with the main recent expenditure being £120.00 for the tree to replace one that was recently vandalised.

Following previous discussions regarding letting fees for 2019 it was agreed that all regular village lettings and 'Educational & Wellbeing' rates should remain unchanged, given the strong possibility of disruption during the Wesley project works, but that other fees should be increased by 5% across the board.

It was unanimously agreed that Linda Waspe should represent the BWMA on the Amenities Association following the recent change in their schedule of nominee trustee bodies to accommodate the BWMA in recognition of the group's key role in the community.

Peter Edmonds, Secretary
contact: edmondspeter@gmail.com 07860 395720

Peter Edmonds, Secretary, BMA

This is what we do...capturing some moments of the many activities hosted at the Wesley & Blackbourne



FOOTPATH WALK

Dick Burch's New Year's Day Walk

Meet at the Village Sign on Crown Mill at 11.00pm
4½ miles easy walking and back to The Fox



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Hello from St Johns,



Recap!

November has been, once again, a wonderfully busy month for St John's. We are blessed to have so many volunteers and so many people dedicated to knowing Christ and making Him known. We had a beautiful "Time to Remember" service held to mark the passing of loved ones and to honour their memory. The Friends of St John's did an incredible Armistice Exhibition in our church (see separate article by the Friends). In November, we also had our amazing Christmas Fair (with café, craft stalls, games, tombolas and, of course, Santa!), a moving Saturday film night and a Friday afternoon Messy Church – probably the messiest yet – not to forget the visit from Bishop Mike on Sunday 25 Nov! We are seeing new faces at St John's all the time... if you're interested in why-we-do-what-we-do, then come along! We look forward to welcoming you.

News!

- Do you enjoying singing? Why not join our 2018 community choir! There are 2 rehearsal dates on 3 and 10 Dec 7.30pm at the church. Everyone is welcome to join and we'll be singing at the Carols By Candlelight service on 16 Dec at 6:30pm. It promises to be a great occasion. Spread the word :)
- Our new stainless-steel roof is up, we are watertight and it looks great. Thanks to everyone who supported this project.



Pictures of the fantastic new roof which, with special permission from English Heritage, a Church of England Faculty and Mid Suffolk Planners, is changed from lead to specially treated stainless steel at a cost in excess of £40,000.00. The original was stolen and the majority of the cost can be recovered from the insurers.

- Thank you to all who attended Remembrance Sunday. As well as it being an important occasion of remembering those have sacrificed so much in war, over £700 was raised for the Royal British Legion. Thank you!
- Carol Singing will take place on 19 Dec at 7pm at Crown Mill accompanied by the Norton Salvation Army band. Refreshments will be available afterwards at the Baptist Church.

Christmas!

We wish you all the most marvelous Christmas :) Details of all our services are below.

"God became man; the divine Son became a Jew; the Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, unable to do more than lie and stare and wriggle and make noises, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. . . . The babyhood of the Son of God was a reality. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the Incarnation." Timothy J. Keller, Hidden Christmas: The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ.

God bless you this Christmas! Very best wishes for 2019.

Rev Peter Goodridge 01359 240512
www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk/
www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell/
Details of our Services and Events are here:

Sunday 2nd December
9:30am Family Church
11:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 9th December
8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:30am Parish Praise

Sunday 16th December
9:30am Breakfast Church (breakfast from 9am)
11:00am Holy Communion
6:30pm Carols by Candlelight

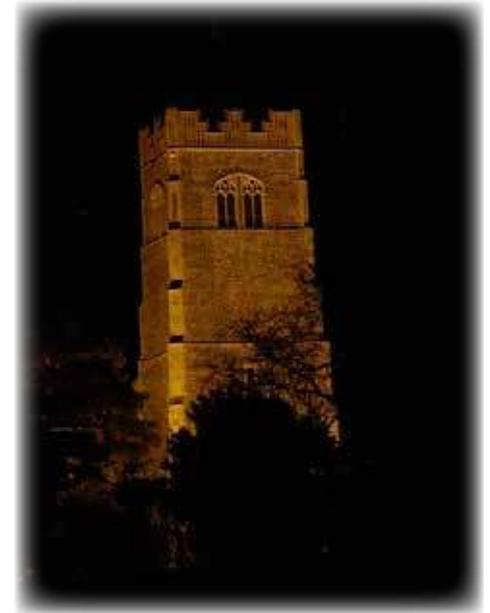
Sunday 23rd December
10:30am Holy Communion

Monday 24th December
3:30pm Messy Nativity
11:30pm Late Night Communion (BCP)

Tuesday 25th December
8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:00am Christmas All Age Celebration

Sunday 30th December
10:30am Informal Communion (all age)

Sunday 6th January
9:30am Family Church
11:00am Morning Prayer with Holy Communion (BCP)



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

You are therefore invited to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's as usual, 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".

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the floodlighting this year, and Seasons Greetings to all.

NOVEMBER 2018 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 13 in loving memory of Joyce Howe on your Birthday. From your loving husband Stan and Family. "We miss you so much" xxx.
- 14 anon
- 28 anon



DECEMBER 2018

- 3 in loving memory of Reginald Bloomfield.
- 10 in memory of Ray Borrett.
- 12 in memory of Ada Hunt on her Birthday. From Carl & Sharon, Susan & Peter, Adrian & Tracey.
- 16 Ken Catchpole - in the Lord's keeping for twenty four years. "In our thoughts and hearts for ever". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 20 in loving memory of Betty Hart. "Always in our thoughts". With love from all the family.
- 22 in loving memory of grandparents Robin and Ellen Hood, and parents Dennis and Daphne Harvey. Love from all the family.
- 23 Revd. Noel Clarke - remembered with love on his Birthday.
- 23 in loving memory of Ivy Hopper. "Forever in our thoughts". Sally, Alan & family. xx.
- 24 in memory of Evelyn and Roy Clark.
- 24 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas, George and Rene Stiff. "Miss you. God bless". Louise and Brian. x.
- 25 in memory of Mark & Andrew Jones. "Always in our thoughts". Mum & Dad.
- 25 Christmas Catchpole. Remembering Ken, dear Husband, Dadda, and Grandad. Also, Charles and Ivy, dear in-laws and Grandparents. "The special, special Christmases will not return, when we were all together, but with all the love in our hearts, will always stay for ever". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 25 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas, George and Rene Stiff. "Miss you. God bless". Louise and Brian. x.
- 25 in memory of a dear Mum and Dad, George and Rene Stiff. Monica, Philip and family. x.
- 25 John Bennington. Remembering all the lovely times we had at Christmas and throughout all the years. "Always in our thoughts". Love Elizabeth and all the family. x.
- 25 cherished memories of our dear Mum/ Nan/Great Nan, Evelyn Simpson, on this special day. "God Bless".
- 25 in loving memory of Hugh & Dora Handyside. xx.
- 25 in loving memory of Mary Eveline Skinner. Tony & Margaret. xx.
- 25 loving memories of a dear Mum & Dad, and twin brother, at Christmas, Ivy & Dennis, and David Hopper. Sally, Alan & family. xxx.
- 26 cherished memories of Hugh & Dora Handyside. xx.
- 26 in loving memory of Mary Eveline Skinner. Tony & Margaret. xx.
- 30 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their

village and community so well.

- 31 in loving memory of a dear husband, Duncan Wardrop, on his Birthday. Love always, Alexandra. xx.

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

We'll be lighting our first Advent candle on Sunday 2nd December, Advent being the time of year when Christians contemplate what it meant for Jesus to come to earth as a baby 2000 odd years ago. In our services leading up to Christmas we will be thinking about the fact that God sent his Son, Jesus, to come to earth to live to teach us how to live, to die to pay for all our sins and rise again to establish a new relationship between God and mankind and assure us of an eternity in his presence if we acknowledge him as Saviour and Lord. A relationship where it is not necessary to have a priest as an intermediary or where one has to follow a mountain of rules and regulations. If you'd like to consider this more, do come and join us over the next few weeks, everyone is welcome.

The Ladies Friendship Group annual Nosh 'n' Natter takes place on Monday 3rd December to which all are welcome (men as well). There will be a fantastic meal as well as comedy and music from Gavin Milnthorpe. This is at 7.30pm. Telephone Margaret on 241541 if you would like to come although you may not see this until after

this date!!

Food & Friends on Thursday December 13th at midday – for the older folk – a chance to meet other people and enjoy a Christmas meal with all the trimmings, all for a suggested donation of £7.00. Places are limited so phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place. We will conclude by singing a few Carols with a short epilogue from Stephen.

On Wednesday December 19th Christians Together in Elmswell are holding Carols on the Green at Crown Mill at 7pm accompanied by some of Norton Salvation Army Band. Do come along and join us in a good sing. Free mince pies and coffee at the Baptist Chapel afterwards.

We are holding our annual **Carols by Candlelight on Monday December 24th at 5.00pm**, come and experience the unique atmosphere created by over 80 candles lighting the chapel and get your Christmas off to the perfect start. Coffee, tea and more mince pies to follow. For those who don't like coming out in the dark (and anybody else who'd like to come!) we will have Carols in the Morning at 10.30am the previous day.

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

- Dec 2nd Rev. Barbara Challis – inc Communion
- Dec 9th Stephen Spurgeon (All-Age Service)
- Dec 16th The Congregation
- Dec 23rd Stephen Spurgeon - Carols in the Morning
- Dec 24th **5.00pm Carols by Candlelight led by Stephen Spurgeon**
- Dec 30th 10.30am The Congregation

Just in case you don't read your January newsletter quickly enough, the Ladies Friendship Group meets again on January 7th at 7.45pm for another of Jenny's Surprise Evenings. All ladies welcome. Phone Margaret on 241541 for more details.

Visit our website at www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk

Have a truly Happy Christmas!! **Tony**



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Christmas 2018 at St John's Elmswell

Sunday 16th December 6:30pm
Carols by Candlelight



Monday 24th December 3:30pm
Messy Nativity
(previously known as "I Cant Wait For Christmas!")

Monday 24th December 11:30pm
Late Night Communion

Monday 25th December 10:00am
Christmas All Age Celebration!



www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk
Everyone is always welcome!

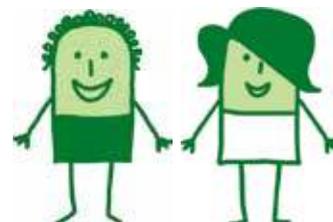


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(If Seats Are Leather They Are Also Conditioned)

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

Beavering away in Lukeswood – with BT

Early in November we were joined at Lukeswood by a team of volunteers from BT to carry out a range of essential tasks in the orchard and woodland. There was raking up to do, to remove vegetation mown from under the orchard trees. We do this for the same reason as at Kiln Meadow – to remove the dominant weeds to allow the green sward and wildflowers to come through. There's an added reason to mow and rake in the orchard: we get a lot of self-sown trees springing up everywhere, principally birch, sallow and aspen. While this is welcome elsewhere in the woodland, we don't want these trees to grow in the orchard where they would eventually compete with and possibly overshadow the fruit trees. Cutting these saplings removes this year's growth, but it doesn't completely solve the problem, as cutting encourages more shoots to grow again next year. So another task for the volunteers was digging out the stumps – a really hard job as many of the root balls are deep and extensive. Everyone worked very hard and several of our volunteers did a great job, swinging the mattock and setting to with spades and bowsaws.

Many of our self-sown birches in the woodland are multi-stemmed, with some trees having as many as five or six stems growing from the same trunk. With the help of our volunteers we've started to thin these out, cutting one bough at a time. Reducing the number of stems allows the remaining trunk to grow stronger, extending the life of the tree.



A huge thank you once again to our BT volunteers for all their hard work. They keep coming back, so they must enjoy their visits to Lukeswood!



Willow stars, twiggy reindeer, bug hotels and birchwood snowmen.....

Cutting the birch trees gave us a large pile of logs, but we had a cunning plan to make good use of some of these. We had in mind our stall at St John's Christmas Fair. We asked our BT team to help us saw the logs into usable bits and little slices – all of these to go towards making a unique range of hand-made Christmas gifts and decorations. Some drilling, a lick of paint, a few ribbons and a bit of ingenuity and – hey, presto! – we had reindeer, snowmen (both standing and hanging), candle holders and bug hotels for our stall at the Fair. At the same time our willows are ready for their annual cutting so some of these were fashioned into stars, wreaths and – more reindeer! We had great fun making everything, and we hope that everyone who kindly bought our wares will also enjoy them over the festive period. It was all the more pleasing, knowing that everything was made from natural products from our own woodland. As the trees mature there will be more opportunities to use our own wood to make things. We're planning to hold a workshop next year aimed at learning how to make a whole variety woodland products – arty, crafty, quirky or useful – so watch this space for more details soon.

We had a great time at the Christmas Fair, so thanks to everyone at St John's for this lovely event – don't miss it next year!



Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas from all at ElmsWild – see you in the New Year!

Mary Feeney info@elmswild.org.uk

KH

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Our own field of poppies in June looking to Mill Gardens from Wetherden Road

This year's Poppy Appeal went very well with the excellent sum of £4753.05 raised from all sources within the village.

Grateful thanks are due to all those who collected, despite the weather not always playing the game, all the shops and businesses who displayed collecting boxes and all the other helpers.

Special thanks also to the friends of St John's Church who donated a proportion of the donations given at their very interesting and informative display in the church.

As always, a few more volunteers would be nice. Someone willing to take on the organising would also be very welcome.

Thank you everyone once again.

Tony Chaplin, Poppy Appeal Organiser



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018

ST JOHN THE DIVINE CHURCH, ELMSWELL

At St John the Divine Church, Elmswell, from 6-11 November there was a Poppy Festival, arranged by the Friday Ladies' Lunch Club and The Friends of St John's Church, to commemorate the end of the 1st World War.

Last November the Church suffered at the hands of thieves who stripped the lead from the South Aisle roof and in the process damaged the parapet masonry. This year repairs are underway to install a stainless steel roof and replace the broken masonry.

The village war memorial is within the church, attached to the wall of the South Aisle and names those men who returned from the 1st World War and the 28 soldiers and 1 sailor who lost their lives, as well as those who died in the 2nd World War. There were 29 silhouette figures placed around the church. These stark, black silhouettes, individually named, mentioning their regiment and date of death were made and generously donated by Jonathon Noy of Eastern Frames, Haughley. They were reminders of the men's tragic deaths and were appreciated by our visitors to the Church, some of them being taken home by their descendants! Some of our visitors came from Essex, Cambridge, Kent, and Norfolk and there were family reunions, which was very rewarding for those of us who arranged the festival as well as for the families.



The village War Memorial at St John's

Elsewhere in the Church there were poppies (made by ladies from the village and some from Australia) draped from the balcony and surrounding the font; other displays in the Sanctuary represented animals during war time, with purple poppies, saddles representing horses and decoy pigeons representing the homing pigeons which carried messages. There were yellow and red roses referring to the Minden Rose of the Suffolk Regiment on the drumhead altar. Other displays featured the 'lost aerodrome' of Elmswell, women in wartime, the trenches, with sandbags, a stretcher and some crutches.



The Garden of Remembrance in the churchyard was as usual available for people to place crosses in memory of loved ones – this year there were 27, the most there has ever been.

During the week children from Elmswell Community Primary School came to see the exhibition and showed great interest, one class on their return to school made poppies and wrote messages on them, to form a huge cross which was displayed in the Church.

The Annual Service of Remembrance was held on Sunday 11 November at which the attendance was the highest for many years. The Choir sang 'Let Justice roll down like a river' illustrated on the screens by a power point presentation depicting scenes of war, famine, flood, etc. The Brownies read the lesson and a member of the Scouts recited 'In Flanders Fields'. Binyon's words and words from the Kohima Epitaph were spoken by Bryan Holmes and Intercessions led by Jean Folkard. The service was conducted by Revd Peter Goodridge.

Wreaths were placed on the War Memorial by representatives of the Parish Council, the Amenities Association, Elmswell Firefighters, Scouts and Guides, St John's Church, Ladies' Lunch Group and the Anglian Regiment.

This was a special week for all who attended and thanks must go to those who loaned photographs and other memorabilia for the event. Numbers of visitors to the exhibition exceeded the organisers' expectations!





WI ARMISTICE DAY

The National Federation of Women's Institutes had issued knitting and craft patterns to local branches for members to make and use in local commemorations for the 100-year anniversary of Armistice day.

Elmswell Women's Institute decided at one of our monthly meetings that we would like to become involved in the National campaign and to pay our tribute to the people of Elmswell who had lost their lives in the conflict. It was agreed that a fitting home to place our display would be the Memorial Gardens, for which we sort permission.

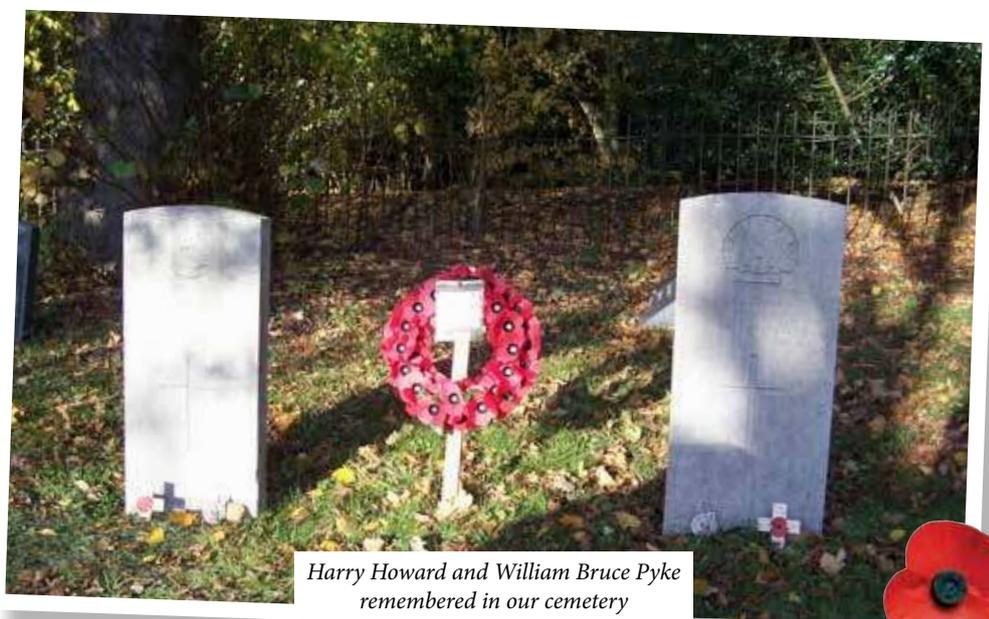
We set about knitting and crafting and after several months collected all the various poppies from members of both village Women's Institute groups. We then met on a couple of occasions to attach the poppies to some garden mesh, which we decided would be best for our display.

We wondered how the wool poppies would fair outside in the elements but we were very pleased to see how effective the display looked after the week of being attached to the tree in the gardens.

Elmswell Women's Institute is proud to have taken part in such a memorable occasion.



The Memorial Garden stone



Harry Howard and William Bruce Pyke remembered in our cemetery





Farm Workers in Suffolk including German P.O.W's

In September last year we carried a copy of the letter forwarded to our Village Recorder, Mo Dow, with other material relating to the Gibson family who lived at Willow Wood farm on Grove Lane during the First World War.

The farm was billeted with German prisoners of war who were paid 5d., five old pence or 20p per hour, as farm labourers. The letter we printed was one of the POW's, Peter Walbröl, thanking his Suffolk hosts for their kindness during his stay.

Our photograph is from the Imperial War Museum and shows a gathering of adult and child farm hands, some of them POW's in Suffolk in 1918.

When hostilities ceased at the end of the first world war, a hundred years ago last month, the Armistice provided for the release of Allied prisoners of war but made no corresponding provision for their German counterparts, who had to wait until the Treaty of Versailles was signed in June 1919. Peter Walbröl, the foreman of the German prisoners who had been working at Willow Wood Farm, in Grove Lane, did not arrive home to Bad Godesberg (now part of Bonn) until late October or November 1919, having only just been discharged from the army, which he had joined in August 1914. He had been wounded and captured in Belgium in July 1917.

After leaving Elmswell, he had filled in trenches in nearby Gosbeck, before being transferred to a large PoW camp at Pattishall, in Northamptonshire. A major strike in September 1919 — involving railway staff as well as other workers—had further delayed his return to Germany.

Herr Walbröl's marriage seems to have been a casualty of the war, his wife, Margarethe, moving out shortly after his homecoming. The marriage was dissolved in March 1922. About a year later he married Elisabeth, née Euskirchen; they had two daughters (he had two sons from his first marriage). He married a third time, after Elisabeth's death in 1948. He himself died in 1969, aged 83.





E.F.C. SECRETARY'S QUARTERLY REPORT

I'd like to start off by wishing Reserves manager Terry House a speedy recovery from his knee replacement; we all hope he'll be up and about and chasing after people who disagree with the lino in no time. The club would also like to give a huge thank you to new kit sponsors *A.T. Decoration Ltd* and *Sackers Scrap Metal & Waste Recycling*. Their new green and white hooped kit can be seen being modelled by the first team before their cup game earlier this month. The other picture shows Elmswell Reserves in their outgoing Elmswell FOX kit, before their first game against Old Newton.

Here is a taster of our season so far.

September

The *ServiceMaster Clean* First Team had a great pre-season, beating a few higher division teams. They carried this strong start into the league beating *Felixstowe Rangers* 1-2 away, on the first day of the season and ending a mixed month hosting *Witnesham Wasps* at the Blackbourne Community Centre. The wonderful pitch up there is the best we've played on this season thanks to Dickie Birch and all his hard work. A close game with some highly controversial decisions ended up finishing with both teams reduced to ten men and Elmswell losing 2-3

October

On a miserable wet Saturday the Reserves went to Ipswich to play *Bramford Road Old Boys Reserves*. It was a tight first half but a slight reshuffle at halftime helped open the flood gates and Elmswell romped home 1-5 winners. Our First Team got drawn against *Old Newton* first team, who are comfortably top of Division 1, in the Bob Coleman Cup. Our lads all put in a great shift but eventually the visitors' class shone through and they went away 0-5 winners. The game was filmed and you can see highlights on Youtube!

November

The First Team's first game of November was a bit of a special affair. Drawn against *AFC Sudbury A* in the Suffolk Primary Cup, the match was played on a Friday night on their main pitch under floodlights. A supporter's fun bus was organised by Club Chairman Shaun Pratt. The chilly but cheerful followers witnessed a tough match against a Sudbury side as skilful as they were youthful. We lost 8-1! Having played 7 of 22 games Elmswell first team are currently in 5th position in Div 4, only 3 points off second, with a game in hand.

Elmswell Reserves had a roller coaster November. At the halfway point in their season they sit in 3rd position.

Coming up next month for you to support at The Blackbourne –
15/12/18 @14:00 Elmswell Res vs Bramford Road Old Boys Res @ Blackbourne Community Centre



ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

We rounded our 2018 season off with a very successful Country and Western Dance in the Chamberlayne hall followed, a few days later, by a harmonious and productive AGM in the Olympic room. The Dance was masterminded by charity-fundraiser extraordinaire, Jean Worby, who handed over an incredible £250 which, many suspected, included some of her own money. Many, many thanks, Jean, it was a superb effort and greatly appreciated. You may now consider yourself a life-long, honorary member of the club. Dancing was to the locally renowned Dave West and Jean provided an abundance of excellent refreshments to complete a great evening.

The AGM resulted in all existing officials remaining in office (there's a surprise) with David Gruenbaum joining the committee with one space left to fill, this post to be filled when all Application Forms are returned and we know exactly how many members we have. We are keen to enlist someone to represent the newcomers so that they can have their say in club affairs.

This is the time of year when Thank You's are the order of the day and we have quite a list of backs to pat. First and foremost, we owe an enormous debt of thanks to the Parish Council, without whom we would have sunk without trace. Their support and financial clout has ensured the future of the green and safe-guarded the facility for generations to come. I also have to mention our District Councillors, Sarah Mansell and John Levantis, who have bought a communal scarifier from their locality budget from which we will also greatly benefit. Unfortunately, we needed so much equipment to start with that it meant a huge initial outlay but we are now set for many years to come and, as agreed at our AGM, intend to make a £500 donation to the EPC from the monies paid in to the Club over the season. Under the existing system, we have no need to amass funds so we can use our modest profits to contribute to the Wesley project for example, from which the whole village will benefit. In years to come we will be able to help wherever funds are needed. Next season, with more teams taking to the field, we will be able to pass more back along the line.

We cannot let the year pass without mentioning Mr Jimmy at The Fox, and his legendary post-match refreshments. We have been so well looked after at the Fox that we are the envy of the League and visiting teams simply cannot believe the trays of sandwiches, chips, chicken nuggets and prawn crackers that are wheeled out to us on match days. It really has made all the difference this year, although, of course, winning the majority of matches did help quite a bit!

Club President Dick Burch has put in many hours of work on the green and, despite some extremes of weather, ensured the we had a good playing surface throughout the season. Work is continuing during the winter, albeit at a greatly reduced rate, and we are looking forward to enjoying the fruits of our labours come next spring when we will be launching some new teams upon our unsuspecting rivals.

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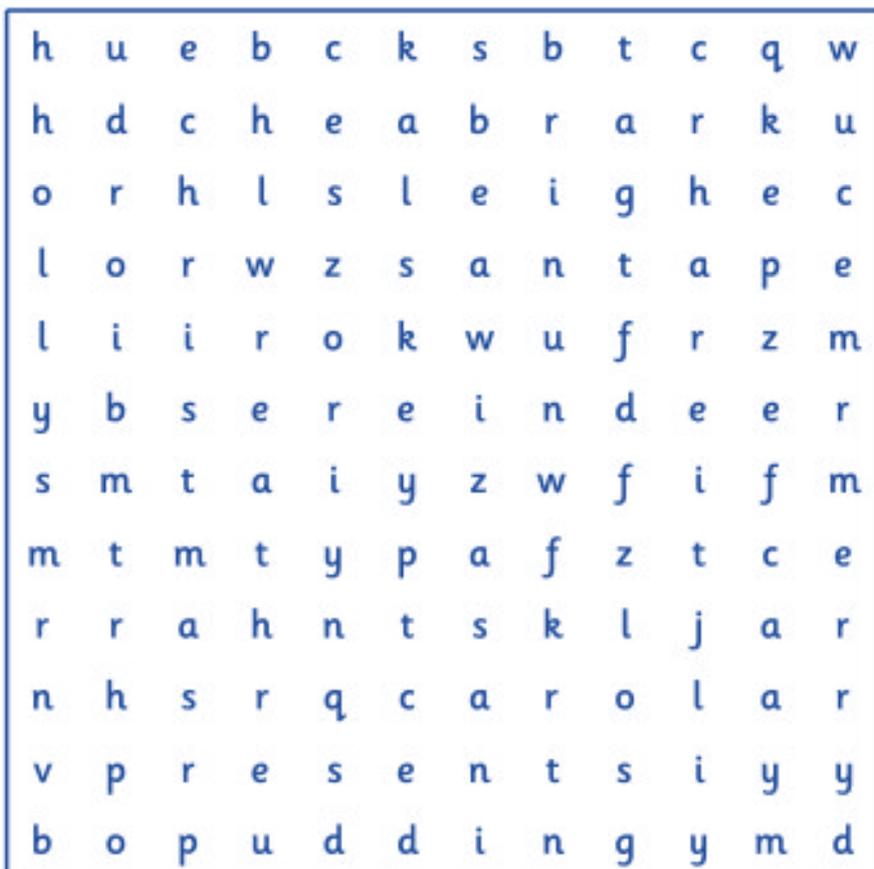
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Pine Cone Christmas Decorations

You will need

- Pine cones (as many as you like, but between 5-10 would be best)
- Acrylic paints (try metallic paint for a festive feel)
- Medium paintbrushes
- An assortment of different coloured ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue

Paint your pine cones in the colours of your choice and leave aside to dry.

Cut a length of ribbon for each pine cone, in varying lengths. Use glue to attach the ribbon to the pine cones.

Arrange the ribbons and pine cones until you're happy with the design and then secure into a bow at the top. Hang your new pine cone Christmas decoration in pride of place.



Ingredients for 30 Biscuits

- 250g self-raising flour
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon (plus extra for dusting)
- 1 tablespoon ground ginger
- 75g unsalted butter
- 1 large egg
- 2 tablespoons of golden syrup
- Icing sugar to dust

Method:

Preheat the oven to 160C/gas mark 3.
Mix the flour, sugar and spices in a bowl. Rub the butter into the mixture with the ends of your fingers until it resembles breadcrumbs.
Beat the egg and syrup together in a jug.
Make a well in the middle of the flour mix and add the egg mix. Mix together with your hands until you get a ball of soft dough.
Wrap in cling film and pop in the fridge for at least 1 hour.
Roll out until about 1/2cm thick. Cut out about 30 biscuits with a star cutter.
Place on a lined baking sheet and bake for 12-15 minutes, until golden brown.
Once cool dust with icing sugar and ground cinnamon.

Personalised Gift Tags

You will need;

- plain gift tags
- Paint
- Pen
- Eyes

Using brown or black paint, print using your thumb onto the tag, then follows this by a finger print on top in white or red. Once dry add the eyes and then the legs using pen.



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What do you call a snowman on rollerblades?
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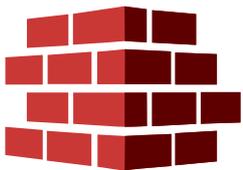
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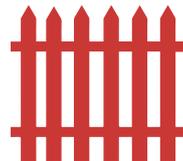
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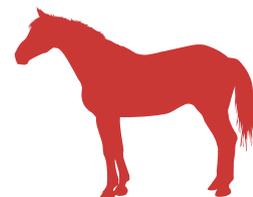
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ELMSWELL AMENITIES ASSOCIATION

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The EAA is the long-standing community charity that administers the Memorial Library and Garden, publishes the Elmswell Newsletter and, until recently, organised the annual Autumn Fayre.

The Association held its Annual General Meeting in the Memorial Library on 18th October where the Approved Accounts were noted along with confirmation of representatives from Appointee Bodies, being: Cricket Club Terry Garner, Football Club Shaun Pratt, Parish Council Cllr Mike Friend, Parochial Church Council Jean Folkard, Elmswell Youth Marian Abbott.

4 Appointee Bodies were removed from the list of Appointee Organisations, being: Luncheon Club, which has ceased to operate; Library Friends who no longer wish to be represented; Bowls Club having ceased to be based in the village; Methodist Church which no longer has a Ministry in the village.

14 residents were nominated and elected by the Meeting to serve as Trustees, being: Diann Armstrong, David Barker, Jean Barker, Nick Brooks, Dick Burch, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow, Peter Edmonds, John Ibbetson, Tony Marsham, Herbert Mulley, Ann Richards, Cecil Salmon, Terry Southgate.

The retiring Chairman, Peter Dow, gave the following report.

Having ceased to be the prime movers the annual village Autumn Fayre, the Association's year has been less busy. However, our support for the Fayre's successor, ElmsFest, has proved to encourage its success and, it is hoped, the continuation of an annual festival event into the future.

The Elmswell Newsletter continues as the main revenue stream for the Association as well as providing the community's main source of information and acting as a showcase for the many village groups and activities. This is proving particularly useful to the many incomers who have begun to fill the fast-growing housing estate of 149 houses at the Bacon Factory site, the precursor to other sites with Planning Permission yielding some 460 more dwellings over the next 10 years or so and with the possibility of more to come.

The long-standing problems with the Library lease, as SCC divested itself of responsibility for the site to Suffolk Libraries IPS Ltd, are now resolved and the letting is back on an untroubled basis for the time being. There was considerable expense involved in handling the transition which, on the other side, was attended by apparent poor practice.

As part of the village's growth, the Parish Council's initiative to provide further community facilities by refurbishing the Wesley chapel and halls site seems to be an essential move given the pressures evident at The Blackbourne which, far from proving to be the 'white elephant' predicted by a small disaffected minority, is proving to be victim of its own success and is, at times, almost bursting at the seams. I support proposals to grant aid the Wesley initiative, as the Association did so significantly with Blackbourne, and to invite representation to the Trustee body from the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association to further cement the bond between the Association and many of the significant social providers in the community.

The demise of the Luncheon Club serves as a reminder that, particularly given the looming pressures of growth, there will be changes in the village's demographic and the needs and aspirations of its population. As Wesley develops, it is clear that the Parish Council is well aware of the flexibility needed in community provision if it to remain relevant and to serve the village effectively into the unknowns of the future. I am proud of the role that the Association has played and continues to play in this regard and I thank the Trustees who, sharing this belief, make that role possible.

In the Committee meeting that followed, the Trust Officers were re-elected unopposed and it was agreed that both the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association and the Elmswell Fox Bowls Club should be added to the list of Trust Appointee bodies. Congratulations were sent to the ElmsFest organisers and it was agreed that the Association would, once again, underwrite the event in case of loss. The £400.00 loaned against last year's start-up expenses is to be repaid.

A letter of thanks is to go to Barry Haywood for once again examining the accounts and signing them off for submission to the Charity Commission. From the accumulated cash reserve of some £66,000.00 earned from the Newsletter income, Library rent and Autumn Fayre proceeds, it was agreed that £60,000.00 be made available to the Parish Council, ring fenced for specific use in taking further the Wesley chapel and site refurbishment and its development in parallel with the successful Blackbourne facilities.

The Association's Annual Return is published on the Charity Commission website under the reference 304879.



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If the DWP does not change its decision you can appeal, although this could involve going to a tribunal and may take some time to be heard.

If you're struggling to make ends meet, you can apply for extra help. Ask the DWP for a hardship payment. This is usually a loan and will be deducted from future Universal Credit payments. You can apply for this payment through the Universal Credit helpline, or by asking at your local Jobcentre Plus office.

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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL November Report

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August. The Ordinary November meeting took place on 19th at The Blackbourne with 8 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel and 4 members of the public.

This report is compiled from the 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 meetings 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 Elmswell.suffolk.cloud, 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 meeting on 15th October, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Mid Suffolk District Council

Our Ward Members, Cllrs Sarah Mansel and John Levantis, have a budget allocated each year for spending on local causes. This year some £4,119.00 has gone to fund the Elmswell Over 55's Club transport costs, a bike trailer for our Village Warden, new Planters for the Gardening Club flower displays at Elmswell Station and a grounds maintenance scarifier for Blackbourne.

Grant for Wesley project

Councillors gratefully acknowledged the offer of a grant of £60,000.00 from The Elmswell Amenities Association towards the proposed refurbishment of the Wesley chapel and halls site recently purchased by the Council for development as a community hub in tandem with the facilities already on offer at Blackbourne. The Association, which administers the Memorial Library and Memorial Garden site and publishes the Elmswell Newsletter, has, in the past, supported the Blackbourne project over its various phases of development to the tune of some £120,000.00, being the year-on-year proceeds from the Newsletter, rental income and the Autumn Fayres.

Audits

The Council is examined in 3 separate processes each year over the full spectrum of its finances, procedures and governance. The first is an internal review carried out at the mid-term point by the Council Chairman, Vice chairman and a Member elected to join them. The Meeting agreed that Cllr Chris Wiley should be the third inquisitor this year and that the process should be based on a comprehensive pro forma document, which was circulated in draft and approved, requiring examination of any and all relevant data sources. The second stage is a formal audit carried out by an independent Internal

Auditor. Council has a policy of rotating this appointment every 3 years to avoid any chance of over-familiarity and to encourage a regular fresh perspective on the Council's processes and procedures. The Meeting agreed that Heather Heelis of Heelis & Lodge, an experienced and independent Local Government auditing practice, should carry out the process this year. The Report from the Internal Auditor goes forward to a Government appointed External Auditor, currently PKF Littlejohn LLP, who make their own Report which must be ratified by Council and published, including on the Council's website, usually in September.

Dog & Litter Bins

In anticipation of impending discussions regarding the 2019/2020 budget and precept, the Clerk drew the Meeting's attention to the changes predicted by Mid Suffolk in charges for dog / litter bin emptying for the financial year 2019/20. One of the drivers for this is the gradual alignment of such charges across both authorities and, in this instance, Mid Suffolk are having to bring their charges up to the Babergh level. The effective p.a. increase for Elmswell to fund is £5.00 per litter bin and £6.00 per dog bin. We have 18 dog and 23 litter bins, netting out at an increase of £205.00. The current year's charge was £1,350.00. The proposed increase is, therefore, 15%. This was traditionally a service funded by district & borough councils, and Councillors noted the drift towards transferring costs down to town & parish council level.

Wesley

The Meeting noted a Report confirming that the Wesley Task & Finish Working Party met on 11th November with Alan Wilkinson, the architect steering the refurbishment programme, and 2 representatives of Castons, contracted to provide Quantity Surveyor services in relation to the scheme. In the light of cost estimates to hand, it was agreed that a single-storey new build element will provide an improved facility and a more cost effective solution and this, together with other changes to the internal arrangement, will be the subject of new drawings and costings. It was agreed that a deadline of building contracts allocated and signed by 1st May is a reasonable and desirable aim.

Planning Results

The meeting noted the results of Planning applications as advised by Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, being:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| DC/18/01679 | Submission of details of appearance... Land adjacent to Wetherden Road APPROVED |
| DC/18/04032 | Outline... erection of 1no. dwelling... 5 Prescott Drive REFUSED |
| SCC\0049\18MS | Retrospective application for installation and operation of concrete batching plant, ancillary facilities and access Aggmax Ltd, Lawn Farm Quarry GRANTED |
| DC/18/02830 | Erection of up to 9 No. dwellings and creation of access...Land adjacent to Oak Lane REFUSED |

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| DC/18/04400 | Non material amendment to application DC/17/05668 – ridge height... 2 Cooks Road APPROVED |
| DC/18/04083 | Erection of first floor and single storey rear extensions... Kykko, Warren Lane GRANTED |
| DC/18/04113 | Erection of 1no. dwelling Spinnakers, Ashfield Road GRANTED |
| DC/18/03803 | Notification of tree works... 19 Oxer Close GRANTED |
| DC/18/04037 | Retention of caravan and workshop... 10 Wetherden Road REFUSED |
| DC/18/04399 | Extensions at Millstones, Station Road GRANTED |

Planning Applications

It was agreed that Council would support 3 Applications for Planning permission as referred to them for comment. These were:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| DC/18/04538 | Erection of a two storey side extension at Hilltop Cottage, Church Road |
| DC/18/04776 | Erection of first floor extension over existing garage and a two storey extension at rear of garage, 27 Orchard Close |
| DC/18/04842 | Erection of single storey rear extension and rebuild sun-room following demolition of existing at Mayfield, Warren Lane |

Post Office

The Chairman outlined the very constraining licensing system whereby local post offices are allowed to operate and conveyed the view expressed recently by Jo Churchill MP that modern methods of commerce and communication mean the inevitable decline of traditional Post Office services. Nevertheless, he pledged to continue to pursue the business case details presented by the current operating agency as the reasoning for the recent reduction in hours at Elmswell Post Office and he confirmed Council's openness to any possibilities of a community venture helping retain some service level within the village.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Monday 17th December, as necessary, at 7.30pm in the Chamberlayne Hall at 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 elmswell.suffolk.cloud, on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op outside the Post Office.



Our local Trading Standards champion is Ken Coulling – always keen to hear of suspicious approaches or practices.

**Contact him at
Kenneth.coulling@gmail.com
01359 242797**



FOOTPATH WALK

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

**SUNDAY 16th DECEMBER
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

Future Council Meetings

Notice of all meetings and agendas is posted on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
17th	21st	18th	18th	15th

Meetings are held at Blackbourne, beginning at 7.30 unless otherwise notified



**COMING TO BLACKBOURNE
21st & 22nd December**

SOCCER SCHOOLS

Holiday football coaching for 5-13 year olds



SOCCER SCHOOLS 2018

- Games, competitions and Norwich City themed fun
- Outdoor & indoor spaces for all weather conditions
- Coaching from FA qualified coaches
- Opportunities to be selected for Norwich City FC youth development programmes
- Certificate and course gifts, plus the chance to meet Norwich City players*

DECEMBER

20TH - 21ST DECEMBER
THURSDAY & FRIDAY 10AM - 3PM

£28

Elmswell FC
Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH (INDOOR)

www.norwichcityfc-suffolk.co.uk



Your Christmas tree
at

**The
Blackbourne**



**From 7am on Friday 4th January,
until 6.30am on Wednesday 9th January.**

Real trees only - less than 7' tall with all decorations, stands & pots removed.
Please call 01449 724829 / 01359 244134 for further details



ELMSWELL
PARISH COUNCIL



Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. Staffed Mondays & Wednesdays 9.00am – 4pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 12 noon and at other times by arrangement.
clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134



THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

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.

December 2018

- 3 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church, Nosh & Natter with comedy and music by Gavin Milnthorpe. Men are invited as well. All welcome.
- 4 Exchange Club Christmas lunch
- 5 Keep In Touch Community Cafe (at the Fox Pub, 10:30am) Social meet for new and established residents of Elmswell
- 6 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Christmas Celebrations - To Be Confirmed
- 6 Over 55's club Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- 7 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 10 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm. Christmas Party
- 13 Over 55's club Music & Carols with Norton Salvation Army OPEN EVENING
- 13 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, The Penland Pheasants (folk group): "The True Story of Hereward the Wake of Ely", also featuring local king, saint and martyr St Edmund - told in words & traditional folk music. Light seasonal refreshments will be served. *This event is ADVANCE TICKETS only, none on the door. Tel. 01359-242601 for details.
- 14 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 14 Bingo Christmas special doors open 6pm eyes down 7.30 pm
- 15 Over 55's Club Xmas Party with Jim Bob Duo .
- 19 7pm Carols on the Green at Crown Mill organised by Christians Together in Elmswell with Norton Salvation Army Band. Refreshments at the Baptist Chapel afterwards.
- 24 5pm at Elmswell Baptist Church - Carols by Candlelight - for all the family - get your Christmas off to a great start!

2019

January 2019

- 4 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 7 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - another of Jenny's Surprise Evenings.
- 8 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Wendy Smith, Wimbledon umpire and line judge.
- 9 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 10 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker John Orbell: "Bury's Corn Exchange, past and present"
- 10 9.00am to 10.30am, Elmswell Primary School Reception Class Open Event for parents of children born between 01/09/2014 and 31/08/2015. www.elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk
- 10 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday

- 11 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 12 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 16 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 18 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 19 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 24 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm

February 2019

- 1 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 6 Exchange Afternoon WI The work of the Rural Crime Team
- 7 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 9 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Zoe Noble, Womens Health & Wellbeing
- 13 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Sarah Doig: "The Story of East Anglian Almshouses"
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 15 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 20 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 22 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm

March 2019

- 1 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 6 Exchange Afternoon WI A Song of Their Own - the story of Suffragettes in Ipswich and surrounding villages
- 9 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Yum Yum Tree Fudge
- 13 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Miriam Stead: "Tea for the British, with a little twist of Suffolk"
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 15 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 20 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 22 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 29 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon

April 2019

- 3 Exchange Afternoon WI Suffolk Land Search & Rescue
- 5 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Ex Detective Chief Supt. Alan Caton MBE
- 10 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00

- 11 Elmswell History Group's 19th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm, Speaker John Morris: "Constable at Flatford Mill"
- 12 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 17 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 25 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 26 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon

May 2019

- 1 Exchange Afternoon WI AGM & Resolutions
- 8 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 9 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 9 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Richard Young: "Bury's Victorian Observatory" *July tickets on sale*
- 10 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 11 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm AGM and Resolutions
- 15 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 17 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 23 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 31 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon

June 2019

- 5 Exchange Afternoon WI How holidays used to be
- 6 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 7 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 8 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Louise Gregory, Line Dancing
- 12 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 13 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Claire Gapper: "Decorative Plasterwork in Elizabethan & Jacobean Suffolk" *July tickets on sale*
- 14 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 19 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 20 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 28 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon

July 2019

- 3 Exchange Afternoon WI A Passion for Swifts
- 5 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Summer social event
- 10 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 11 Elmswell History Group - 7pm Annual Outing to Suffolk Police Museum, Martlesham Tickets from 01359-242601
- 12 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne

To be included in our events diary, please send us a separate notification of your announcement.

PLUS>>>> regular bookings at Blackbourne & Wesley include, Art Club, Baby & Toddler Group, BATS table tennis & badminton, Boot Camp, Bingo, Carpet Bowls, Circuit training, Companions, Exchange Club, Gardening Club, History Group, Ju Jutsu, Karate, Ladies Lunch, Mardle Quilters, Pilates, Sewing Bee, Slimming World, WI (afternoon and evening groups), Zumba.

Ring 244134 for details or email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

A VILLAGE INDEX



Useful contacts for community groups & others...feedback is essential.

Do be in touch to correct or add details or to suggest someone else deserving of listing.

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	ea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	John Welford	welford955@btinternet.com	240166
Baby & Toddler Group	Jen Tooke-Marchant	elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
Beavers	Ruth Court	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
BATS – Badminton at Blackbourne	Peter Edmonds	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Jean Folkard	derekrf2@gmail.com	
Community Speed Watch	Mo Coulling	mocoulling@gmail.com	0777 4695784
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk	240555
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks (Sec.)	elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	245247
District Councillor	John Levantis	Johnlevantis@gmail.com	01284 700925
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange afternoon WI	Maureen Davis	modavis6@gmail.com	
Exchange Club	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	
Fire Crew;non-emergencies	Brian Hawes	brian.hawes@suffolk.gov.uk	07761 125093
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Shaun Pratt	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com	07813 302808
Fox Bowls Team	Dick Burch	ann.richards47@gmail.com	240105
Friends of Elmswell School			
Friends of St Johns	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	242099
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Sue Howard	sueguides2011@talktalk.net	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Lunch Club	Brenda Begg	davidgbegg@gmail.com	242025
Library	Zoe Clark - Manager	elmswell@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleeelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	ea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Oil buying Group		elmswelloil@gmail.com	07813829008
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk,	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Photographic Society	Mike Randell		
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	David Hawes	davidandanna@yahoo.co.uk	240249
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
St John's Church	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	242099
Sewing Bee	Zoe Clark		07580 297140
Village Tree Officer	John Ibbetson	jaye130@gmail.com	241086
WI - evening	Margaret Stevens	stevensmarg@tiscali.co.uk	408452
Youth Football	Raymond Flatt	raymond.flatt@hotmail.co.uk	07729 774610

Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. Staffed Mondays & Wednesdays 9.00am – 4pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 12 noon and at other times by arrangement. clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134

**IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY THAT YOUR DETAILS APPEAR HERE,
PLEASE DO BE IN TOUCH VIA ea@elmswell.org.uk**

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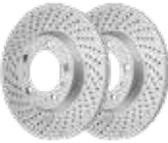
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