



'Like a friend dropping in'

The Elmswell Newsletter



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

February 2018

FIRST FOOTING

...see page 12



First driving lesson -

... see page 13



Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879. 1,776 copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

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Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

If you wish to comment, please do so via the office 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.

Have you seen this man?

He is safe to approach, answers to the name Peter Hancock and, as his high-vis jacket declares, he is Elmswell's new Village Warden.

Already known to some by his job initials, 'VW', true to the marque, he beetles about... safe, economical and Teutonically efficient. Peter has been out on the streets since November, picking litter, bagging the mess left by charming dogs and their charmless owners, assembling fly-tipped rubbish for collection, washing down street signs and snipping back intrusive undergrowth. In 13 weeks this has yielded 86 full black bin bags of general rubbish, 14 bags of leaves, countless items of discarded car parts / household items and unmentionables together with an unmeasured quantity of faecal matter scooped and bagged as having been quite understandably left by a dog, less explicably left by a dog owner. Elmswell is now clearer and will remain so. Peter, having dealt with a back-log, and having walked every street in the village, can now turn to the secondary levels of municipal caring – the street signs, the plastic developer site notices and possibly some of the less than intelligent parking practices which might benefit from a quiet word or a few traffic cones.

All of Peter's duties were once done by one of the 'upper tier' councils – County or, more usually, District. Now these bodies are out of touch with the mean streets of rural Suffolk, closeted miles out of their District and huddled together for safety in Ipswich. They shelter behind verbal sandbags. Such as the recent classic when a complaint was made that the white markings on the pedestrian crossing outside our Co-op are virtually invisible:

"The Zebra Crossing road markings have almost completely faded/vanished to the point that vehicles are sometimes only stopping at the last moment having failed to heed the advance warning signs - the presence of a pedestrian using the crossing comes as a bit of a shock to some drivers."

From a hot desk somewhere in never-never land came a reply:

"We have assessed the severity of the issue that you have reported, and in the light of that assessment we will not be taking any remedial action at this stage. Please be assured, however, that we will monitor this location as part of our routine inspections and if the matter gets worse we will look to prioritise suitable remedial works. Thank you for reporting your concerns and we will ensure that future highways inspections



monitor the situation so we can take prompt action if required.

And, as road safety awaits the magical level where SCC will, 'prioritise suitable remedial works', what chance of Police help in the case of an accident?

Well, perhaps not the Police... our Police & Crime Commissioner recently took a break from photo-calls to roll out his plans for Local Policing Volunteers, good hearted folk to be recognised by tabards and a certain glint in the eye. As 'the eyes and ears' at the very extremity of a very stretched thin blue line no doubt they would soon divine that the old chap trapped under the car on the crossing outside the Co-op was deserving of the Force's attention. We are told that they will have 'access to Police stations', so, off to Stowmarket to report the problem. Job done. It is unclear whether this new arm of the law will extend beyond that of Police Community Support Officers who are no longer allowed to work after 6.00pm or Special Constables or Neighbourhood Watch... what is clear is that, as with the Council's pledge to, 'prioritise suitable remedial works', the priorities look different from the bottom looking up than

they clearly do from the dizzy heights at the top looking down.

Our Parish Council recently agree to buy its own road signs in an effort to route HGV traffic sensibly and safely. Not their job...but it's either that or no road signs. Why not a few pots of white paint for the Co-op crossing and our dangerously un-marked road junctions?

Our penurious state begs the question, why, as services decline, are we paying more Council Tax? County up by 5%, Mid Suffolk by 2%, Police by 6.8% and all in the face of declining services. And the Parish Council? Up again, but the extra - 7p per week on average - will not disappear to Ipswich. It will be spent in Elmswell, on Elmswell and for Elmswell. It will move Wesley nearer to being a top notch community hub; it will finally deliver a Neighbourhood plan to help stop the helter-skelter of ill-considered development; it will go towards improving facilities for a population set to almost double in the coming few years...and it will pay for a Village Warden. Local money spent on local things by local people for local people.

A theme emerges...

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

February 20 March 27th April 24th May 22nd June 26th July 24th August 30th

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

It's all about the ears. Large ones! Dogs' hearing is four times better than human hearing and Dottie, the miniature Jack Russell in Ted Evan's delightful picture, has a couple of most impressively large ears. Mind you, if those ears were on an elephant then they would most certainly be considered to be small. How do you explain that? Bobbie Fiske did the elephant, whose name I do not know, so I shall call him/her Jumbo. Why not, it's as good as any? These two lovely pictures have been created without the use of conventional paints such as watercolour, oils or acrylic. Ted used pastel pencils and paper blending sticks for his work and took it from a photograph of a friend's dog. (Probably too difficult to get the dog to pose long enough for a decent image to be created.) This type of work is Ted's speciality. I'd guess Bobbie's superb looking African elephant was done from a photograph as well, I would not want to stand in front of anything as big as that, to do a live picture. In her case Bobbie used pastel chalks. In spite of their size, elephants do not have super hearing, the large ears are there mainly as a cooling mechanism in the blazing African sun.



On 27th February from 10am to noon we are throwing our doors open to anyone interested in a workshop/demonstration of pen and ink drawing with colour wash by noted local artist and lecturer Paul Seymour. There will be a small charge of £4 for non-members. Why not come along, who knows it might just make you want to try painting and drawing as a hobby? *John Welford 01359 240166*

'Art is not what you see, but what you make others see'

- Edgar Degas



Art club meets Tuesday mornings at the Wesley.



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

Our first meeting for 2018 will be on February 20th. We will be holding a Beetle Drive and look forward to seeing members for an enjoyable, social afternoon.

Anice has managed to book "The Hut" at Felixstowe for Friday 4th May so put the date in your diary and let's hope the sun is shining! Thanks to Anice for sitting by the phone patiently to book the trip.

New members always welcome.

Enquiries to Carol 242 884

ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

We are now looking forward to seeing all our members and hopefully some new faces when we resume our meetings on Thursday February 22nd at 7 00pm at the Blackbourne when we will be entertained by "Brian of Note".

The programme for 2018 is gradually filling up so look at the Whats on listings at the rear of this newsletter for an update

We are taking names for the Holiday to the Isle of Wight on Monday July 30th @ £235 pp contact Grant for further information.

There are also limited tickets available for the Thursford Christmas Show on December 6th at £52 00pp all inclusive which will require a deposit of £20 on booking, please contact me. *Diann 241002.*

YOUR DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS ARE



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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

At our meeting on 11 January we welcomed the return visit of Geoff Clarke, with two of his films of Suffolk Scenes. Geoff worked for many years at the University of East Anglia, in the department where film archives are kept and preserved. The films shown to us were of local places, the first, 'Suffolk from the Air' showing the area around Haughley and Elmswell when the A14 was being built and the second, 'A walk around East Anglia 2012'

The first film showed views of Elmswell and it was interesting to pick out landmarks, such as the silos near Haughley Station. The second film showed us many of the smaller and less well-known villages, such as Willisham, Westhorpe, Thorndon, Redlingfield, with the ruins of St Benet's Priory and the Priory Chapel. Tivetshall St Mary (Norfolk) was also shown, where the church was destroyed by a sonic boom in the late 1940's.

Our next meeting is on 8 February 2018 and asks us the question 'Have you noticed Bury St Edmunds Street signs?'. The speaker will be Martyn Taylor, local historian and author who is also chairman of the Bury Society and his talk will be about the many fascinating 'hidden' signs and symbols to be found in our lovely town of Bury St Edmunds; the illustrated talk will explain where and what these symbols are. Martyn will bring copies of his books for sale and signature.

Our meetings are held at the Wesley Hall at 7.30pm. For more information about the group, visit our website www.elmswell-history.org.uk or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359 242601.

ELMSWELL W.I.

Rachel apologised for cancelling the Christmas party due to icy conditions, after consulting various members, and most people thought she had made the right decision. She then welcomed two visitors to our meeting: Sarah and Sharon, and after a hearty rendition of "Jerusalem," we were looking forward to hearing from our speaker for the evening, Gareth from Lavenham Butchers, our shop in Elmswell.

First of all, he explained the ethos of his business: He always sells locally-sourced meat, as far as possible, so that he knows where it comes from and how the animals have been

killed. This means that customers have better-tasting meat from healthier animals. Gareth has been working in butchery for about thirty years and enjoys constantly learning new ideas and methods, eg. new cuts from America and other places, where people have travelled. He is always prepared to try and give his customers what they want, be it an unusual type of meat or an unusual cut. 90% of the game he sells is sourced from friends.

We were a very animated audience and wanted to ask lots of questions. We learnt a lot: Muntjac is the mildest venison; mutton comes from a two-year-old sheep, lamb from a one-year-old, a hoggart is in between and much more. Meat is inspected at the abattoir and the butcher's.

We are so lucky to have our very own butcher, here in Elmswell and we hope he is as successful as he deserves to be. His popularity increased when we learnt that he had brought along some of his sausage rolls for us to try!

One of our members, Lesley, told us that she had not drunk any tea, coffee or alcohol, during the whole of January. She wants to raise money for the Water Aid charity and invited us to sponsor her for this very worthwhile cause.

Diary Dates:

- 2.2 Soup and Natter Lunch, £6.75, 12.30pm.
- 2.2 Craft morning at Monika's
- 5.2 Play Reading at Park Farm, £6, 10am -12 noon.
- 15.2 Kew Orchid Festival trip, £35, 8.30am. from Bury St. Edmunds.
- 16.2 Craft morning at Rosie's.
- 19.2 Scrabble at Park Farm, £6, 7pm.

Our next meeting is 13.2. 18, "Friendly February," when we shall be inviting non-members to come and hear a fascinating one hour talk about jewellery-making. Nicky Wade from Gemmeus will be telling us about her classical and revival jewellery and there will be examples of her work, including silver and gold filigree and information about the historical sources she uses. It should be an interesting meeting, which we hope to share with lots of other people from the community.

Rosie Collins 01359 241652

ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB



What a sense of anticipation. This is the most exciting time of the year – the season of new beginnings. As the first aconites, snowdrops and a few delicate camellias shine through dull days, there is no better place to be than the warmth of Elmswell Gardening Club at the Blackbourne. Catherine and Margaret have organised an action-packed and thought-provoking programme for 2018. Full details of which may be seen in 'What's On' at the back of the Newsletter.

We are thrilled to announce that our first speaker is the renowned gardening writer and broadcaster, Caroline Holmes, who was commissioned by the Duchess Northumberland to create a poison garden at Alnwick Castle. She will explore with us the designs and planting throughout the garden with special attention to the living poisons safely locked behind Alnwick's ornate gates. Definitely not a talk to be missed – the most innocent-looking plants may be the most dangerous and who knows what nefarious ideas linger in the bosoms of Gardening Club members.

We look forward to welcoming you all to our first meeting of the New Year which will be on **Tuesday, 20th February, 7.30pm** at the **Blackbourne**. The talk is entitled '**The Fatal Attraction of Plants**'. Our 2018 membership fees are £15.00 per person but only £4.00 for visitors. If you would like to come and join us, we are a friendly inclusive group with varying degrees of gardening knowledge. As has been said '*a green thumb comes only as a result of the mistakes we make while learning to see things from a plant's point of view*' and we are so lucky to have such a great range of gardening speakers who will help us tune into our 'green thumb'. If you require further information about the Gardening Club please contact **Nick Chamberlin** on **242601**.



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

All Wesley and Blackbourne booking enquiries are now handled from the Parish Council office at Blackbourne – right next to the car park:

Tel: 244134

Email: clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



A DIVERTING TALE...



Working on behalf of



0300 123 5000
www.highways.gov.uk

12 January 2018:

Dear Sir or Madam,

A14 J47A-49 Haughley – carriageway repairs

I am writing to provide you with details about repairs to the concrete carriageway we are carrying out on the A14 between junctions 47a and 49 near Haughley on behalf of Highways England. This scheme forms part of a wider package of works to deliver essential maintenance and improvements on A12, A11, A14 and A120 in Essex and Suffolk.

This work will take place on both east and westbound carriageways and will involve concrete bay replacement, localised concrete repairs, crack sealing, along with road marking renewal and new reflective studs.

Work will begin on **12 February 2018** and we plan to be finished by **4 March 2018**.

We will be working overnight between **Monday and Friday 8pm – 6am**.

Traffic restrictions

To complete this work safely and minimise disruption to the travelling public, the A14 carriageway will be closed between junctions 47a and 49. Clearly-signed diversion routes will be in place:

Eastbound from J47a via the old A14 and Tot Hill to J49

Westbound from J49 via Tot Hill, then Stowmarket Road, Elmswell Road, Wetherden Road, Cross Street, and Church Road to J47

Our programme of works is weather dependant and may be subject to change.

Find out more and contact us

The information contained here is correct at the time of publishing. For the latest information please sign up to our weekly information bulletin by emailing Area6Comms@osborne.co.uk with 'subscribe' in the subject field.

If you have any enquiries please contact the Highways England Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000, or e-mail info@highwaysengland.co.uk.

I would like to thank you for your patience while we deliver these essential works.

Yours sincerely

Peter Alexander
Construction Manager
Osborne

In 2012 the Highways Agency decided to fix the holes, ridges, lumps & bumps in the deteriorating concrete carriageway of A14 as it thunders past Elmswell.

Closing the road is the only reasonable option given the logistical and cost constraints of contraflow working. So they closed the road and posted a diversion. The diversion suggested that all vehicles use A140 and A143 to Diss and then back on A14 near Bury. This added 37 miles to the journey. Most traffic ignored the suggestion suggesting, in various media, that the scheme was ill-considered, impractical and bound to cause chaos (We paraphrase!). It caused chaos, including in Elmswell which had not been prepared for the whole of the overnight A14 traffic flow to trundle through the heart of the village.

Having failed to agree, despite considerable pressure, that the complete resurfacing is an urgent priority, they're coming to patch it up again. (There is a possibility of the resurfacing being considered for a budget in 2015).

This time, we are warned – but only 4 weeks' notice. Warned because they have realised that The Only Way Is Elmswell (plus Wetherden and Haughley New Street).



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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Forgive me for hijacking the library's newsletter update for a moment, but I just wanted to say goodbye and thank you to all the library customers I have had the absolute privilege to meet and serve over the past eight-and-a-half years.

By the time you read this I will have moved onto my new career, but I couldn't leave the library without saying what a pleasure it has been to work within such a wonderful community where I have met some amazing people, both colleagues and customers alike. I happened to join at an extraordinary point in the library service's history, but throughout the changes I have had amazing support, and not least since 2013 by the volunteers who make up Elmswell Library Friends. We have a busy, refurbished library, well able to serve the growing village and with a dedicated and knowledgeable team of staff. I will remain an avid library user and hope to support ELF whenever I can. Hopefully a new manager will be in place soon, but until then here are a few dates for your diaries.

Our Community Café at The Fox pub in Elmswell, goes from strength-to-strength. It is aimed at people who want to find out more

about the community they live in, or people who have retired or moved to the area and find themselves isolated for one reason or another. For the next five months the group will meet at 10:30am on Wednesday, February 21st, March 21st, April 18th, May 23rd and June 20th. Just come along for a coffee and cake and you can also find out about the book group.

Our Family History Group continues to meet every fortnight in the library – the next meetings are 2:30-4:30pm on Wednesday, February 7th and 21st, March 7th and 21st. Julie will help people new to our free-to-access Ancestry and Find My Past get started on their mission to plot their family tree. Or anyone who is a more experienced genealogist and has come up against a problem can come and swap ideas with Julie.

Our free Baby Bounce and Tot Rock has got off to an amazing start in 2018 with a new volunteer – Zoe. She will lead you and your tot through a session of songs and rhymes every term time Friday at 9:45am.

Watch this space for updates of any new clubs and events – we are hoping to get a new Lego club up-and-running, ELF will be holding more of the highly-successful wine nights, there

should be another Race Night in March and don't forget the Summer Reading Challenge through the school summer holidays.

Your library is not just about books, it's about literacy, community and building knowledge. There are a massive range of services, both physical and online, and libraries offer a safe, welcoming and supportive environment for all. Make use of your library and all it has to offer – remember a library card is quite unique, membership is open from the cradle to the grave, it's completely free and it gives you access to a world of opportunities.

Thank you once again for all your encouragement and support, I really have had the most incredible experiences and I know Elmswell Library has a bright future ahead.

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

For a list of upcoming events in libraries visit www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/upcoming-events

@suffolklibrary Facebook.com/suffolklibraries

CHRISTMAS TREES



Elmswell Parish Council were one of the Mid Suffolk pioneers in Christmas tree recycling. For some 5 years they have advertised the drop-off point at Blackbourne attracting an ever-increasing number of discarded festive icons and twiggery for collection by Mid Suffolk. The trees are taken to the green waste recycling facility at Creeting where they are fed through a giant chipper to emerge as compostable material or bark mulch.

This year's offering was larger than ever, and the ever-cheerful Mid Suffolk staff are seen defying the freezing drizzle as they pause in throwing a couple of the 80+ trees on their lorry.



ST JOHN THE DIVINE
ELMSWELL, SUFFOLK

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Get in touch...

Everyone is welcome at St John's. If you'd like to know about our church, or enquire about getting married or having your baby christened, please get in touch! Revd Peter Goodridge, 01359 240512, elmswellrector@gmail.com, www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk ...and find us on facebook.

Flipping Marvellous!

This Shrove Tuesday (13 February) we are having a Pancake Party – 4:30pm in the church room! This is a free event and all are welcome to join us to toss a pancake, eat a pancake and maybe even learn the significance of pancakes :)

Ash!

To mark the beginning of Lent, why not come to our Ash Wednesday service? It will be 14 February at 7:30pm. This will be a time for reflection and will include the opportunity to be marked with ash in the sign of the cross.

Prayers for Nigeria & Elmswell

The family of Ernest our curate, currently living in Nigeria, have submitted their visa applications. If you're the praying sort, please pray for Ernest's family to be able to join him (and everyone in Elmswell) shortly.

Thank you for helping our fundraising!

We are fundraising and we've made it easier than ever before to either make regular or one-off donations to our church. If your new year's resolution was to do more charity work, or give something back to the community, please consider supporting our fundraising! <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charities/StJohnsElmswell>

We have significant running costs and, despite the events at the end of last year, we have continued, business as usual, to serve our God and our wonderful community. Let's keep St John's available to all – regulars and non-regulars alike - this year, next year and in decades to come! We are very grateful for your kind support and please note all donations are confidential and can even be made anonymously, if you wish! Also, many thanks to Allchurches Trust and Suffolk Historic Churches Trust for supporting our chancel ceiling repairs project with grants of £1500 and £4000 respectively.

Pews & Popcorn

Saturday 4th March is Film Night at St John's! Please keep an eye on our website, facebook page and weekly service sheets for details. There will be drinks and snacks and great movies! We will be showing two different films, at 4:00pm and 7:00pm. Please invite your friends :)

Services and Events

Saturday 3rd February
7:00pm Quiz Night



Photograph by: Alastair McArthur

Sunday 4th February

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

Sunday 11th February

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

Tuesday 13th February – Shrove Tuesday

4:30pm Pancake Party

Wednesday 14th February - Ash Wednesday

7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday 18th February

9:30am Breakfast Service
(breakfast from 9:00am)

11:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 25th February

10:30am Holy Communion

Saturday 3rd March - Film Night!

4:00pm Family Film
7:00pm Grown-up's Film



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER 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 an anniversary, a personal event, 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.

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JANUARY 2018 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

3 Loving memories of Albert Lufkin on his Birthday. Love always from his family. x.

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- 1 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 4 in loving memory of my dear Dad, Geoffrey Dalton.
- 6 Geoffrey Sturgeon.
"Remembering the best Grandad".
Love from Shaun & Shelly. xxx.
- 10 remembering a dear Grandad,
George Stiff. Love, Louise & Brian. x.
- 11 in memory of my Brother. Love, Louise. x.
- 12 in loving memory of Ted Rookard
on his Birthday. Love from all his family.

13 in loving memory of
Marjorie Ellen Manning.

13 remembering Fred Rush, a dear Dad,
Grandad, and Great Grandad, on his
Birthday.

17 in loving memory of Ron Last.

19 treasured memories of Doris Towndrow.

21 in loving memory of Wally Fraser on his
Birthday.

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E-mail: ourlady.stowmarket@btinternet.com

MASS TIMES: Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday)

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Sundays Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket
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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

By the time you read this the redecoration of the
inside of our premises will have been completed,
hopefully with some other refurbishment
alterations. We'll really feel we're in the 21st
Century! If you see the chapel is open you'd be
most welcome to pop in and have a look.

The early part of a new year is often of course
when we think about making changes in our
lives, whether it be a new job, new house, new
diet(!) etc. The most important change to be
made if you don't already have a personal
relationship with Jesus Christ is to put that
situation right. If you are interested in finding
out more about what it means to be a Christian,
do let us know and we can quickly set up an

Alpha course which over a few weeks can
guide you through this in an informal, non-
threatening way. The Alpha Course has enabled
many people all over the world to set their life on
a new path. Make 2018 that year for you.

We've just had a booking made for a wedding
in October, this is quite an unusual event for
us so we're very much looking forward to this.
The building is licensed for weddings, we have
to have a Registrar present. We can also handle
funerals at the other end of life. We don't hold
Christenings because we only baptise believers,
which rather rules out babies(!) but we do give
thanks to God for new life with what we call
Dedication (or Presentation) when apart from
giving thanks, parents and the church make
a commitment to bring the child up in the
Christian faith. This takes place within a Sunday
morning service.

Our activities in the next few weeks are:-

We've resumed our midweek get togethers on
Thursday evenings in different people's homes.
These are very informal evenings when we
discuss a passage in the bible (nothing too
deeply theological) and pray together but also
spend a lot of time chatting about all sorts of
things. You'd be very welcome to join us. Phone
Tony or Margaret on 241541 to find out where
we're meeting in any particular week (we don't
meet on the Thursday when Food 'n' Friends has
taken place).

The Ladies Friendship Group meets on Monday
February 5th at 7.45pm. A Games evening with
Jenny Spurgeon. Phone Margaret on 241541 for
more information. ALL ladies are welcome.

Food & Friends on Thursday February 8th at
midday - for the older folk - a chance to meet
other people and enjoy a nutritious meal at
nominal cost. This is run in conjunction with
Age UK. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your
place.

On Sunday February 11th we are celebrating our
131st Church Anniversary. This All-Age Service
will be led by Stephen Spurgeon.

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

February 4th Rev. Barbara Challis
(inc Communion)

February 11th Stephen Spurgeon
(All-Age Service) - Church
131st Anniversary

February 18th Stephen Spurgeon

February 25th Martin Lancaster

March 4th Stephen Spurgeon
(inc Communion)

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

Visit our website at www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk
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Tony



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A reminder... Alcohol at Blackbourne

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Whether it is a full bar (always at prices pegged to those charged in the local pubs), a specialist bar - you can have just wine or champagne...anything to suit your occasion - or simply wine to toast the happy couple or wet the baby's head, it all must come via Val.

The license is subject to Council and Police regulation and the BWMA Committee is liable to ensure that the strict statutory rules are followed.





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10



CITIZENS ADVICE

I am behind on my energy bills and my energy company wants to install a prepayment meter. I don't want one as I've heard they can be more expensive than paying by direct debit. What can I do?

Suppliers may try to install a prepayment meter if you are falling behind on your bills. This is so you can pay for your energy by topping up your meter before you use it, and don't get into debt.

If you don't want pay for energy in this way, contact your supplier to tell them you are struggling with your bills. They should help you agree a repayment plan, based on how much you can afford and how much energy you use. If you are already on a plan but can't afford it, see if you can make a new arrangement.

Also discuss with your supplier the costs of the different meters and tariffs. Once you've agreed to pay back your debts, your supplier won't install a prepayment meter if you don't want one.

There are further steps you can take to help you with your bills. You may be eligible for the Warm Home Discount, which could reduce your energy bill by £140.

Some energy companies also offer grants to their customers to pay off fuel debts, while other companies and charities have grants which are open to anyone.



Last year Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk saved one customer over £300 at one of their Energy Best Deal Extra appointments.

They will be running an Energy Best Deal Extra session at the Blackbourne Centre Elmswell on Tuesday 20th February 2018 between 9.30 and 12.30. If you would like information on getting the best energy deal for you, please drop in with your annual energy summary or 3 months utility bills or telephone 01449 676060 to book an appointment.

They will also be running a drop-in general advice surgery at the Blackbourne Centre on Tuesday 6th February 2018 between 09.30 and 12.30.



Mid Suffolk

DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED EXTRA SUPPORT DURING A POWER CUT?

Although power cuts don't happen very often when they do they can be worrying. UK Power Networks is the electricity network and it provides a 'Priority Services Register' for people who might need extra help in a power cut. You can find more details and register for free support by visiting ukpowernetworks.co.uk/prioritysupport or calling 0800 169 9970.



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NEW YEARS DAY WALK



FIRST FOOTING

Once again our Footpath Officer, Dick Burch, assembled a hardy group at the village sign on the first morning of the new year to walk off the old and to drink in the new. They are pictured here in Wetherden having traversed Spong Lane, through Kiln Meadow, down Kiln Lane and through Sandy Lane to Wetherden Road. From here they went via Mutton Hall set-aside to Footpath 10 behind Blackbourne Road and so on to The Fox.

Dick leads similar walks each month – see the dates on the Parish Council pages, but it is always the 2nd Sunday after Newsletter publication day beginning at 11.00am starting from the village sign on Crown Mill.



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MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP

It's been a bustling start to the new year at our group, with new faces, new crafts and even a new baby or two! We've enjoyed making rainbow fish and bird feeders and welcomed Suffolk Mobile Sling Library for a session. In the next month we have octopuses (octopi?!), to count, firework play dough to explore to celebrate the Chinese New Year and plenty of other wonderful crafts. We also plan to have a visit from Suffolk Cloth Nappies, for those interested in learning more about the reusable nappies available.

We're gearing up for our next Nearly New Sale, which is going to be on Saturday 17th March. We hold these sales every six months and they are our group's main fundraiser. They enable us to cover our rent, so that we can keep our fee low, and use that money for more exciting things like craft materials, special events and trips.

As you might imagine, there is a lot of work that goes into the sale, in the days and weeks leading up to the sale, on the day and afterwards. Obviously, one great way to help is to sell your products at our sale! It couldn't be simpler: you label your items, bring them to us on the morning, we do all the hard work organising and selling them, then you pick up your unsold items in the afternoon and await your cheque in the post! 25% of the money made goes to our group, and the rest goes straight to you! If you haven't sold before, contact Sarah by emailing elmswell.nns@gmail.com this month to get your seller number and your labelling instructions.

We run a hugely popular café during the sale and 100% of the money made goes to the group. We rely on our members, present and past, to bake up a range of delicious treats to be sold. Flapjacks, scones, tray bakes, cupcakes, brownies, quiche... we take it all! Donations just need to be brought to the Blackbourne Hall on the morning of the sale.

On the day, we need an army of volunteers to sort and display the items before the sale begins, to run the tills and keep the queue moving smoothly during the sale and then to re-sort the items again at the end. If you are a current member please consider when you can help, book a friend or family member to watch your small person(s), and come along and help. It's a really enjoyable day, with lots of laughter and chatter going alongside the frantic activity!



YOUR NEWSLETTER'S ROVING REPORTER

We are delighted to have so many monthly contributors – such as the Mother & Toddler Group here who regularly send in news of their activities and often really charming pictures of their toddlers enjoying a great time.

We accept such reports from any village or village-related groups. Our aim is to provide a lively monthly snapshot of the community across as wide a range of interests and activities as we can.

It clearly works – as our repeated awards show!

But what we, the volunteer editors, cannot do is go out looking for news. Our roving reporter is, therefore, you!

If you have something to tell the village about, do let us have your piece – pictures very welcome.

Within the usual and accepted rights of editorial control we will be very happy to give your news a wider audience.

The Editors



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ELMSFEST IS BACK!

After a successful first year for ElmsFest in 2017, the management team have, without question, decided to run it again for a second year.

With crowds averaging around 1,500, we are hoping to improve this even more by taking your feedback on board and providing even more entertainment and attractions, keeping costs for you to a minimum.

2017 saw the return of Kangaroo Kid as our main attraction, but this year we welcome Ridgeside Falconry & Little Nippers – a professional flying and static bird display with dog racing and an opportunity for the crowd to get involved too!

We have so many more exciting ideas in the pipeline, so keep your eyes peeled for more news in future newsletters. For now, though, save the date in your diary for Sunday 02 September 2018.



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AROUND & ABOUT

BUSY SEWING

One of the recent new community activity groups to base themselves at Blackbourne is the West Suffolk Area Sewing Bees.

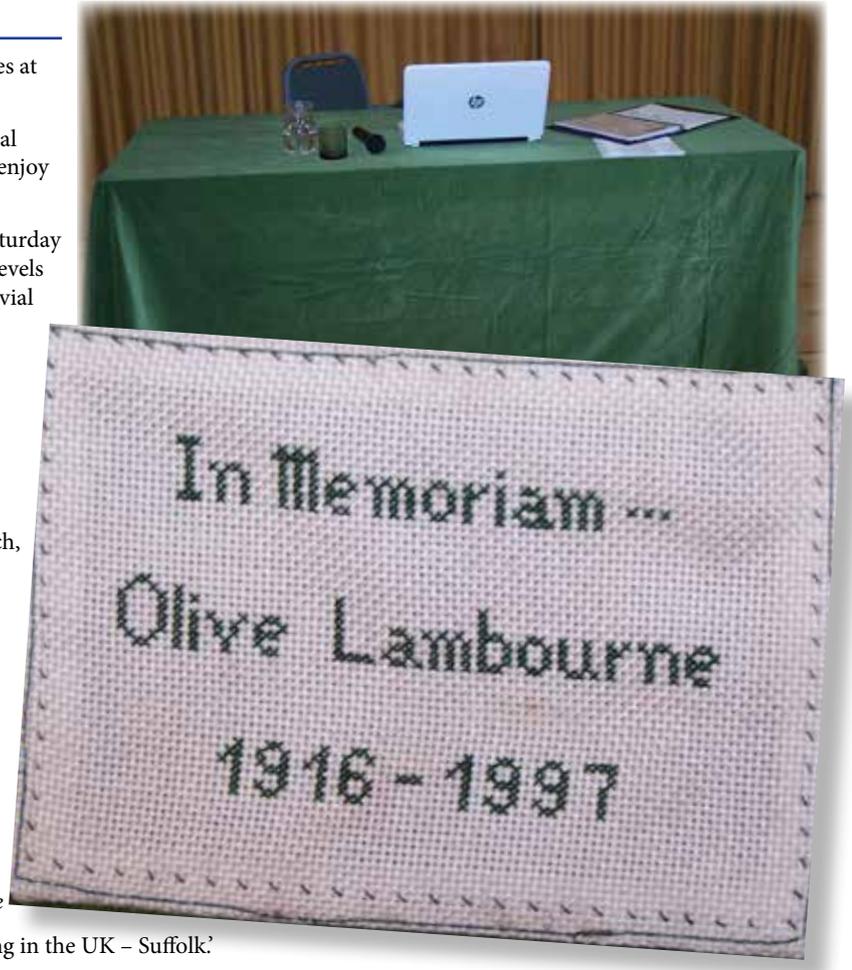
There are 34,000 members of the national network of which our local group is part. They regularly get together to share their interest, to enjoy their hobby, and to sew!

The Elmswell group is run by Zoe Clark. They meet monthly on Saturday afternoons – the next session runs on 10th February. People of all levels of skill and ability bring along their own projects to work in a convivial atmosphere - and away from interruptions. Some have their own sewing-related business, many just sew for fun.

The group shares ideas and have demonstrations by members or invited guests to show new skills or techniques. There have been demonstrations on using snaps, inserting zips, slow stitching, and understanding fabric types. Last year there was a visit from 'The Sewing Machine Doctor' who showed members how to keep their machines running smoothly. This year's guests will include, in March, an expert bag maker, Christine Davis come to share her skills, and in April there will be an introduction to 'Sure-Fit' pattern drafting systems from Judith Johnson. Ideas come thick and fast from members keen to develop their craft skills.

For one recent project, Zoe took apart the green velvet curtains rescued from the damp and mildew of the Wesley chapel and re-made them into covers for the top table at the various meetings and conferences hosted at Blackbourne and Wesley. As our picture shows, the woven dedication panel was carefully retained and remains as a reminder of Olive Lambourne in whose memory the original curtains were hung. Any information about Olive and the dedication would be welcomed at The Newsletter. *Many thanks Zoe*

Contact Zoe on 07580297140 or find the group on Facebook 'Sewing in the UK – Suffolk.'



Nearly New Sale

Free Entry

Saturday 17th MARCH
11am – 2pm

The Blackbourne, Elmswell IP30 9UH

If you have anything to sell, please contact
Sarah 07860 732107 elmswell.nns@gmail.com

25% of sale fees go to Elmswell Toddler Group
We would also welcome any donations of goods.

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Home grown willow

On a bright sunny day in early January we braved the cold to harvest our willow and then later to weave a shelter around the pole barn. Our photos show volunteers enjoying a well-earned break around the campfire, along with a snapshot of John, Bob and Keith hard at work weaving the willow wands into place. Gardeners and allotment holders will tell you that vegetables you've grown yourself always taste better than anything you buy in the supermarket, even if they are a bit misshapen and knobbly. Similarly, making something yourself is always more satisfying than having someone do it for you. So, our willow walls may be a bit on the rustic side (and definitely not something you'd pay lots of money for in the garden centre!), but we're very pleased with the result – and delighted that we're using products grown in our own woodland to help enhance the facilities there.



Hedgerow management at Kiln Meadow

What's the best way to manage a hedgerow? Well, one answer would be that it depends on what you are managing it for. In ElmsWild one of our principal aims is to manage the land we look after for the benefit of wildlife. So, for hedgerows, that means encouraging thick, bushy growth to provide habitats for nesting birds, places for mammals to forage and breed, and a variety of vegetation for insects to feed, hide and hibernate in.

At Kiln Meadow the situation is more complicated, as the long hedgerow which runs along the eastern side of the site also borders the public right of way and a drainage ditch which carries rainwater into the stream on the southern edge. As well as looking after the interests of wildlife, we must also make sure that the footpath is clear for walkers and the flow of water is maintained to avoid any possibility of flooding. As our photo shows, the footpath, with the hedge on each side, is a lovely place to walk and a great place to see and hear birds – it's very popular with walkers.

So, what is the best way to manage *this* hedgerow? As all gardeners will tell you, to keep a hedge healthy you have to cut it, otherwise it will grow straggly and eventually become gappy. With a neglected hedgerow, sometimes the best way to bring it back can be to cut everything down to ground level. This may seem drastic, but it does encourage bushy growth and the hedge will grow back stronger than before.

We've been discussing with Anglian Water, who own the land at Kiln Meadow, the best management plan for our hedgerow, and we've decided

that the vegetation needs to be cut back with the aim of regenerating the whole hedge. Work will be carried out at the beginning of February and will be completed before the bird nesting season starts. Footpath walkers will notice a big difference immediately after the work, but don't worry – the aim is not to remove the hedge but to restore it. It will grow back better than before. During the work, please walk through the wildlife site instead of using the footpath – the contractors will be directing people where to go so that everyone remains safe. Later in the year we will be clearing the ditch to improve the water flow, and then next autumn we'll plant saplings to replenish any gaps in the hedge.

facebook

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk
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TOAD TIMES !

Between the end of February and mid April, toads all over the country will come out of hibernation and begin their hazardous journey back to their spawning ponds. Toads usually move after dark when the temperature is above 5 or 6°C on damp evenings. Every year thousands of toads are killed on our roads.

If you wish to help them cross safely, why not join us! We have set up patrols in Badwell Ash, Walsham, Stowlangtoft and this year for the first time in Wetherden Road, Great Ashfield. We welcome new volunteers for a couple of hours a week to patrol in teams of two. Short training, insurance and answers to all your questions are provided. If you can help please contact us:

Lorna Mackinnon 259140 mackinnonlorna@gmail.com

Sylvie Fitch 241727 bob.sylvie@btinternet.com

Ian Cassidy 233285 ian.cassidy4@btinternet.com.

Local drivers - we need your help too. We put up and light up toad signs when we patrol.

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Tuesday
 Beavers 5.15 – 6.30
 Slimming World 5.30 & 7.30
 WI (2nd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 10.30
 Gardening club (3rd Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 10.00
 Guides Trefoil Guild (1st Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 9.00
 Karate 7.15 – 8.15

Wednesday
 Scouts 5.45 – 9.00
 Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 – 9.00

Thursday
 Slimming World 9.30am
 Brownies 5.30 – 8.00
 Over 55's 7.00 – 10.00 (2nd & 4th monthly)

Friday
 Bingo (last Friday monthly) eyes down 7.30
 BATS – Badminton & Table Sports – 7.00 – 10.00
 Karate 5.00 – 7.00

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

To make a booking enquiry
Call; 244134
Email; clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk





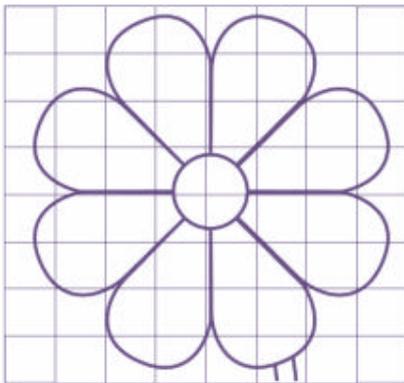
Puzzles And Crafts

Winter word search

B	O	O	T	S	C	P	C
D	K	S	Q	C	O	A	T
Y	D	H	R	A	L	B	O
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A	N	H	D	F	E	H	E
E	O	M	A	V	I	C	E
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WIND ICE GLOVES WINTER SNOW

Copy the Daisy



How to make a hanging rainbow decoration.

Method:

1. Cut a rainbow shape out of a plain white paper plate
2. Paint equal lines from the top to the bottom of the plate to create a rainbow effect using each paint colour
3. Using your glue attach two rows of cotton wool balls at each end of your rainbow to create cloud like effects
4. Now you need to turn your rainbow around
5. Attach one piece of ribbon to the top of your rainbow to create a way of hanging your craft
6. Then attach your randomly coloured ribbons to the bottom of the rainbow in a line across. This will then give the effect of them hanging from the rainbow when it is turned around
7. Leave your rainbow to dry for at least half an hour before the ribbon and cotton wool is dry
8. Now your rainbow is ready to hang!

You will need:

- Red, orange, yellow, blue and purple paint
- Paper plate
- Cotton wool balls
- Various coloured ribbons
- Glue

Craft Ideas Using Paints



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ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

New Season

Although there may be gale force winds and torrential rain currently dominating the weather, it won't be long until we have those long, hot summer days again. That can only mean one thing - the new cricket season.

This year, as ever, we are on the look out for new players to join our friendly and welcoming club. If you are new to the sport we can offer you a wealth of knowledge and experience to get you started. We would also welcome any players who are returning to the sport after a break. Either way, please get in touch via one of the ways below if you are interested.

Club Sponsorship

This season Elmswell Cricket Club is offering local businesses and individuals the opportunity to sponsor us and have your name or brand displayed on our promotional material and on our website.

We're offering a range of opportunities to suit a range of budgets so please get in touch if you are interested in supporting us.

2018 Fixtures

This season we begin our fixtures with an away match against Old Newton on Sunday 22nd April. Our first home game is against Nacton on Sunday 27th April. All Sunday matches begin at 1:30pm and all spectators are welcome to come along and enjoy an afternoon of cricket with us.

Our full 2018 fixture list is now available on our website. Mid week fixtures will also be available there once confirmed.

Contact Us

Email: elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com

Tel: Ian on 01359 244139

Twitter: @elmswellcricket

Facebook: Search 'Elmswell Cricket'

Web: www.elmswellcricketclub.co.uk

SWING INTO SPRING

The Parish Council has had to replace the 'birds-nest' swing at Blackbourne. It is still safe, but not up to the standard the Council sets for public use.

The old swing basket would suit a private user very well. Designed for heavy use it cost some £600.00 to replace.

A bid of £50.00 has been made for the swing.

Higher bids welcome via the Council office at Blackbourne – tel.24134, email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk. Free delivery within the village.

FOR SALE



The new swing in place

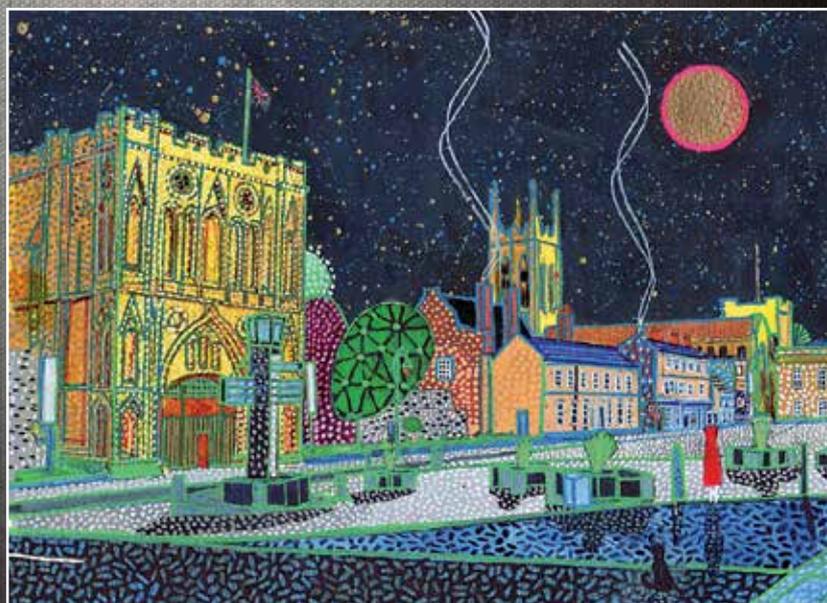
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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL JANUARY MEETING 2018

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August. The January meeting took place on 15th at The Blackbourne with 9 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel & County Council Ward Member Mrs Jane Storey.

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 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 Council's December Ordinary Meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

County Council

Cllr Mrs Jane Storey tabled a written report which included confirmation of a two and half month consultation, which started on Tuesday 12 December, inviting people to help the council shape the future of school and post-16 travel policies as the Council seeks help to find a long-term solution to the funding issues facing home to school transport. The authority is consulting on changing its school and post-16 travel policies so the service can be affordable, sustainable, and capable of meeting growing demand in the future. Around 2400 children and young people receive free/ subsidised school or post-16 travel that Suffolk County Council is not legally required to provide. In addition, around 2400 children receive free travel to schools further away than SCC are legally required to provide. The proposed consultation seeks views on changing these policies. Details on the options under consideration can be found on the consultation website: www.suffolk.gov.uk/schooltravel. The consultation will run from 12 February 2018 and there will be a full programme of events and opportunities for discussion. This includes consultation workshops where the public can consider themes from the consultation, the proposals and general questions and answer sessions.

As part of the announcement by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Sajid Javid regarding the amount of money allocated to each Local Authority in England for the next financial year, Suffolk County Council has been named as one of the pilot areas for a new Government scheme to retain 100% of business rates from Council Tax in 2018/19. In future, Business Rates will be an even greater income stream for all local authorities and this is an opportunity for Suffolk to influence how it will operate in a two-tier system.

Suffolk's local authorities are now, subject to survey and conditions, able to provide fully funded central heating systems to 514 fuel poor households across Suffolk over the next three years. Around 4 million UK households are in fuel poverty, unable to affordably heat their home to the temperature needed to stay warm and healthy. As well as being on low incomes many of these households are also faced with the additional burden of relying on heating systems that

are inefficient and expensive to run. The local authorities working together as the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership have been successful in securing funding from the first round of the Warm Homes Fund for a project worth £4.3 million. The Suffolk project is being managed by the County Council, administered by Suffolk Warm Homes Healthy People based at Suffolk Coastal District Council and supported with further funding from Babergh, Mid-Suffolk, Forest Heath and Waveney District Councils plus Ipswich and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils. Alongside the first-time heating system, households will also be able to benefit from new insulation measures to make the homes more energy efficient as well as grants from the Suffolk Community Foundation's 'Surviving Winter Appeal' where eligible. The new £150m fund was established by National Grid using part of the proceeds from the sale of the company's majority stake in its gas distribution business. It will fund the installation of affordable heating solutions in fuel poor households which don't use mains gas as their primary source of heat. Cllr storey added to her Report the news of the £21m borrowed by SCC from the Government's Public Works Loan Board towards a 5 year programme of remedial roadworks including pothole repairs, new surfaces and surface dressing.

District Council

Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel tabled a written report which included confirmation that, at Babergh's December Council Meeting, Cllr Jenny Jenkins stood down as Leader. There were two motions regarding the consultation on the proposed merger with Mid Suffolk. These were agreed by Babergh Councillors. No money from Babergh's 2018/19 budget is to be allocated for any merger without the approval of full Council and there should be a local referendum before any decision is taken to merge the councils. Mid Suffolk Leadership team are discussing the implications for Mid Suffolk on these decisions.

At last month's MSDC council meeting there was unanimous support for a plastic bottle return system as suggested by Suffolk County Council. There was also unanimous support for the Woodland Trust's Charter for Trees, Woods and People.

Kiln Meadow hedge works

The Meeting agreed that Council should continue to support the work of the ElmsWild volunteers at Kiln Meadow, the long-established wildlife site adjacent to the Kiln Lane water treatment facility, where there is the threat of further hedge and habitat loss resulting from proposed ditch drainage work. A recent programme of such works has led to the loss of a valuable hedge planted by volunteers some 10 years ago. The Clerk undertook to attend a forthcoming site meeting to make the case for more sensitive treatment.

Neighbourhood Plan / Relief Road

Council has appointed 2 professional agencies to bring these matters forward. Messrs Planning Direct have taken all of the Neighbourhood Plan Strategy Group research, consultation results and other material and formalised it towards informing Policies which they are currently writing. Meanwhile, Richard Jackson Engineering have been revisiting their original plans and costings for the aspirational Relief Road and are currently working on more detailed assessments of the railway bridge element of the project with reference to Network Rail. These 2 major pieces of work are inextricably linked, and the Clerk confirmed to the Meeting that they are progressing well and in parallel.

Planning Result

The Meeting noted the following results of Planning applications as notified by Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority:

Mid Suffolk

ref. DC/1703354 The discharge of conditions relating to water run-off in the new layby at Tudor Cottages was granted, the Parish Council having made no objection.

Mid Suffolk

ref. DC/17/05409 The erection of single storey dwelling at Mulberry Farm on Ashfield Road was granted, EPC had objected

Mid Suffolk

re. DC/17/04884 The Discharge of conditions requiring a travel plan for the St Edmunds Drive development was refused, but a similar application related to the access road details was approved.



Planning Applications

The Meeting agreed to support the following Planning Applications as referred by Mid Suffolk District Council for comment:

DC/17/05961 Erection of a 2-bedroom bungalow and vehicular road access at The Gables, Ashfield Road.

DC/17/06276 Insertion of 2 No. dormer windows and single Velux rooflight to rear at Glendinin, Oak Lane

Exchange Hall The Clerk confirmed registration of the Council's Planning Application for the use of land at the Wesley Chapel as extra parking following the demolition of the Exchange Hall. The timescale of the Planning process should allow works to begin in March.

Recycling centre

The Thedwastre Trefoil Guild, a branch of Girlguiding which holds its meetings

at Blackbourne, was thanked for a recent 3-month stint of stewardship of the village's Station Road recycling centre. A grant of £150.00 was agreed towards the group's funds.

Precept

The Meeting agreed that the total precept requirement towards funding Council's responsibilities and activities over the year from April 2018 should be set at £123,931.00. This will require an 'average' payment, from a Band D household of £1.74 per week towards village expenditures, an increase of 7p per week above the current payment.

Bowls facilities

The Clerk reported on a recent constructive meeting with then Chairman and President of the Elmswell Bowls Club in advance of an imminent Extraordinary Meeting of the Club called to address the unfortunate position in which it currently finds itself following the decision of some of the Club membership to join the alternative Elmswell Fox Bowls Club.

Council holds the bowls facilities on trust for the village as a valuable and costly asset and must be assured of the sound governance of any Licensee body. It was agreed that the Elmswell Parish Council, Chairman, Vice chairman and Clerk, together with Cllr David Barker, be given delegated powers to agree the terms on which the facilities are licensed for use in 2018.

Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 19th February 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 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.

FOOTPATH WALK

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

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY

beginning at 11.00 am from the village sign.

Open to all comers & led by Footpath Officer Dick Burch

A couple of hours gentle walking on the footpaths in and around Elmswell

Dogs on leads welcome – stout shoes recommended



YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

David Barker Linden Croft Hawk End Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9ED	02359 241135	david@linden-croft.co.uk	
Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Footpath Officer BWMA Poor's Land Charity
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640 07860 395720	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk	Vice chair Planning Committee
Mike Friend 22 Mill Gardens ELMSWELL IP30 9DL	01359 241699	mike.friend@easidoor.co.uk	Transport Officer Elmswell Amenities Association Editorial Board
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk	
Sol Indurain 22 Mill Gardens ELMSWELL IP30 9DL	01359 241699	sindurain@yahoo.co.uk	Poor's Land Charity
Fred Pallett Maple House New Road ELMSWELL IP30 9 BT	01359 244144 07771 962441	fjp@oilgasassociates.com	Chairman of Council Chairman of Planning Committee
Shaun Pratt Wrinlow Spong Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9 DX	07813 302808	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com	Vice chairman of Council
Mike Schofield Minerva Fairmead ELMSWELL IP30 9HT	01359 241430	mhaksch@gmail.com	
Julia Taber 4 School Avenue ELMSWELL IP30 9EH	07921 882206	juliataber4@icloud.com	BWMA Poor's land Charity
Chris Wiley 28 Gardener's Walk ELMSWELL IP30 9 ET	07544 762448	chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk	BWMA

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What's On in Elmswell ?



To be included in our events diary make sure you send separate notification of your announcement.

For a full year's calendar of what's booked at Blackbourne, please go to the Parish Council website at www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

February 2018

- 2 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 2 Exchange Club meets at 2.30 at Wesley - beetle drive & raffle
- 3 19:00 Quiz Night at St John's tickets £10 including hot meal
- 5 7.45pm Elmswell Baptist Church - Ladies Friendship Group - Games Evening
- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Robert Stainer - The Fairtrade Organisation
- 8 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Martyn Taylor: "Have you Noticed Bury St Edmunds street signs?"
- 8 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Gemmeus - Classical and Revival jewellery Speaker Nicky Wade
- 13 16:30 Pancake Party at St John's
- 16 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 20 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: Permission to Poison - Alnwick Gardens Northumberland
- 22 Over 55's Club with "Brian of Note"
- 23 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

March 2018

- 2 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 3 16:00 & 19:00 Film Night at St John's
- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Becky Poynter From Yarnsmith - A Yarn About Yarn
- 8 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Mark Mitchels: "The Rise & Fall of the East Anglian Herring trade"
- 8 Over 55's club AGM followed by Bingo
- 9 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Career in costume design for stage Speaker Amanda Sutherland
- 16 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 17 Toddlers Group Nearly New Sale
- 20 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: Native Butterflies
- 20 Exchange Club meets at 2.30 at Wesley - Speaker, Mr Parfitt; Thailand, Land of Smiles & raffle
- 22 Over 55's Club Fish & Chip Supper
- 25 14:30 St John's Spring Walk leaving from the Rectory
- 30 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

April 2018

- 4 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Lynne Ready & Marilyn Bartrup - The Gap Year Pensioners
- 5 Over 55's club Sing along with Hank

- 6 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 10 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Speaker Daisy Ship, Holistic Therapist
- 12 Elmswell History Group's 18th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm, Speaker Nick Amor: "Suffolk Clothier in the age of Henry VII"
- 13 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 17 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: The Magic and Mystery of Herbs
- 17 Exchange Club meets at 2.30 at Wesley - Speaker Mr Banham; Old Sayings and their Origins & raffle
- 19 Over 55's Club NO MEETING
- 20 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

May 2018

- 2 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. G.M. and Resolutions
- 3 Over 55's club Outing with Carvery Lunch
- 4 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 8 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm AGM Speaker Sue Stubly Hedgehog Rescue Centre
- 10 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Joan Munden: "Nadine's Story in WW2's Special Operations Executive (SOE)" *July tickets on sale*
- 11 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 15 Exchange Club outing
- 15 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: The 12 month garden - Year Round Colour
- 18 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 25 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

June 2018

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 6 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Linda Shorbolt - Tales Of Baby Feeding With Vintage Treasures
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Speaker Linda Scales Name that tune
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Bob Webb: "History of the East Suffolk Railway" *July tickets on sale*
- 15 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 19 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: Garden Thugs
- 19 Exchange Club meets at 2.30 at Wesley - to be arranged plus raffle
- 22 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 Over 55's club Entertainment by Dennis Maisey
- 29 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

- 29 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

July 2018

- 4 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Edward Jackson - The Beauty Of Moths
- 7 10am - SATURDAY - Elmswell History Group's Summer Outing. Guided Tour of Hadleigh Guildhall and St Mary's Church. Details and Tickets available at our meetings in May and June, or from 01359-242601.
- 10 Social evening - Elmswell Evening WI
- 12 Over 55's Club Return of St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir OPEN EVENING
- 13 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 17 Gardening Club Outing - Anglesey Abbey
- 17 Exchange Club meets at 2.30 at Wesley - AGM, strawberry tea plus raffle
- 20 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 27 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 30 Over 55's Holiday to Isle of Wight
- tbc Elmswell History Group - Annual Outing: Date & Venue to be arranged

August 2018

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Members Meeting - To be Confirmed
- 10 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Speaker Brian Thurlow Mr Potter venerable old gardener
- 21 Exchange Club meets at 2.30 at Wesley - shared lunch plus raffle
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 31 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

September 2018

- 5 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Linda Sexton - Miss Grimwade And The Girls Of Hope House
- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Speaker Mandy Wild How to look good in a bin bag
- 14 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 18 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: Seasonal Interest for autumn garden
- 18 Exchange Club outing
- 20 Over 55's Club Harvest Supper
- 21 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 28 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

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, Bingo, Carpet Bowls, Companions, Exchange Club, Gardening Club, History Group, Ju Jutsu, Karate, Mardle Quilters, Slimming World & WI (afternoon and evening groups), Circuit training, Boot Camp, Sewing Bee.

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

A VILLAGE INDEX



By popular request – and with just a hint of pinching ideas from others – we are trialling a monthly page inside the back cover with useful contact details for community groups and other resources.

Feedback is essential – please be in touch if:

- We have the wrong person /phone number / email address
- There's something or someone missing that you feel it would be useful to include
- You would rather not be included.

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT...USEFUL COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Amenities Association	Jean Barker	ea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	John Welford	Welford955@btinternet.com	
Baby & Toddler Group	Jan Tooke-Marchant	elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	
Beavers	Ruth Court	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Blackbourne Management Association	Peter Edmonds	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk	241640
BATS – Badminton etc at Blackbourne	Peter Edmonds	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk	241640
Bowls Club	Graham Newman (sec.)	newmangraham@btinternet.com	
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
Citizens' Advice Bureau		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Community Speed Watch	Mo Coulling	mocoulling@gmail.com	0777 4695784
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbot.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@councillors.suffolccc.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks	Ewinkeil@aol.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
District Councillor	Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk	240555
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	
Elmswild	Mary Feeny	info@elmswild.org.uk	
Exchange Afternoon WI	Maureen Davis		
Exchange Club	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	
Fellowship of Churches	Jean Folkard	derekrf@tiscali.co.uk	
Fire Crew – non emergencies	Brian Hawes	brian.hawes@fire.suffolccc.gov.uk	
First Responders	Merv.	wentcfr@gmail.com	
Football Club	Shaun Pratt	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com	
Fox Bowlers	Dick Burch		240105
Friends of Elmswell School	Clare Norgate	Clare.norgate@btinternet.com	
Friends of St John's	Jean Folkard	derekrf@tiscali.co.uk	
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	nick@chamberlin1100.freerve.co.uk	
Guides	Sue Howard	sueguides2011@talktalk.net	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
Helping hand	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	
Ladies Lunch Club	Brenda Begg	davidgbegg@gmail.com	
Library			240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Millennium History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Newsletter	Editorial office	ea@elmswell.org.uk	
Oil buying Group		elmswelloil@gmail.com	07813 829008
Parish Council	Parish Clerk, Peter Dow	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Photographic Society	Mike Randell		
Police – non emergencies	Mid Suffolk SNT		101
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
School	Mrs Ash, Headteacher	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
St John's Church	Rev Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	
WI - evening	Rachel Ives		
Youth Football	Julian Tuzinkiewicz	juliantuz@hotmail.co.uk	

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.

Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
19th	19th	16th	21st	18th

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

Enquiries on matters in the report or on any Council matter are invited to the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow.

The Parish Council's office has moved to Blackbourne...

The address is: Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH

Email and telephone unchanged: clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk.

01359 244134 ...voicemail regularly monitored

We're right next to the car park and with full wheelchair access.

The office is staffed: Monday & Wednesday 9.00am – 4.00pm

Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 12.00 noon ...and at other times by arrangement



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01359 242420

Find us at: Station Road Industrial Estate, Elmswell, IP30 9HR