

'Like a friend
dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

January 2018



Stable relationship

...see page 8

Photographs by Frances Hall

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
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Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

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

There seems to be no logical reason why we shouldn't wish our reader a

Happy & Prosperous 2019

...and await the joyful backlash of our devoted, eagle-eyed error sleuths who just love spotting our mistakes. They ring in, gloriously cross and in a voice implying raised eyebrows, with their favourite, 'I think you should read your own magazine,' before skewering a clearly incompetent editorial team en masse for a split infinitive, the adjectival qualification of a verb phrase or the over-use of the semi colon. Or just for getting the date wrong.

But, with the help of the editorial office super-computer and a wettened finger testing the wind of change we are in an excellent position to know where Elmswell will be on 31st December 2018.

Our predictions, therefore, under the following broad headings...

New neighbours

Of the 5 big housing developments which were looming at the beginning of 2018, 3 will be building and will have houses already occupied. At the 'market-sensitive' rate of 42 new dwellings per year that's 126 houses plus an odd few in back gardens, say 130. 250 adults means 8% more to join in at Bowls, or Church or WI. 8% more customers at The Mace & the Post office. 8% more bottles in the bottle bank and 8% more parties at Blackbourne or Wesley. And again next year, and so on...

New school

From their fortress position at Endeavour House, Suffolk County Council will have begun to implement their, 'never mind the quality, cram 'em in', policy and be in the process of expanding Elmswell School on its tiny site to deal with the relentless growth in our population of school age children. Their figures will prove that, for instance, a school hall designed in 1986 for 200 children aged 4 - 9 will now happily accommodate double that number aged 4 -11.

Roads

Faced with the certainty that there is no more space for new roads in the village and that the existing roads are taking the traffic from the 130 new houses each year for the next 5 years, the only change will be in the betting odds on a Relief Road ever being a reality. The new Neighbourhood Plan will have confirmed support and development plans will have matured to a point where any such scheme is 'likely', 'unlikely', 'possible' or 'impossible'. No change there, then. As a continuing challenge to logic and common sense, the A1088 will continue to be subject to an HGV ban.

Railway crossing

To great national acclaim, the freight traffic in and out of Felixstowe will grow substantially by number and by length, and relentlessly so. The increased frequency of the Elmswell crossing gates being closed gives ample time to sit,

pollute and ponder why, with fewer lorries on the road, the A14 gets noisier week by week. A photograph taken from a drone, possibly via Photoshop, will show a single goods train with its engine in Elmswell and the last container just leaving Stowmarket.

Politics

The elections on 3rd May for the Mid Suffolk District Council will have brought the same change as last time, the time before that etc, ie no change. This will matter less as the councillors will be remotely situated well out of the District in Ipswich with only an occasional foray into the area they govern. The electorate may wonder why, when asked, they agreed this to be a good idea. After all, there are consultations galore from all levels of government, but, regrettably, this one slipped through the net. They forgot to ask us. Meanwhile, the move to address the serious mistake that the public did make, by saying, 'No', when asked did they want a unitary authority for Suffolk, will be addressed in the hope that they can get the answer right next time.

Police

We will be assured that the Constabulary continues to address community priorities appropriately and effectively and with multi-coloured statistical evidence that this is working despite the financial constraints that required the Council Tax increase. A lady in School Road claims to have seen a policeman in the village but no other witness has come forward.
Newsletter

Despite delivering 126 extra copies each month, the Newsletter will not have been allowed to enter the competition (as last Year's winners) and will not be Newsletter of the Year. Nevertheless, and regardless of which year you think we're now in, do have a happy one.

Our picture shows St John's following the heavy snow on the last day of 2018.



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

January 23rd February 20 March 27th April 24th May 22nd June 26th July 24th

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

The two paintings featured this month provide a study in contrast, not just in subject matter but in other less obvious ways. Henry Gow's bright and vibrant Poppies would brighten any house especially at this time when we still have many days of winter ahead of us. Henry used water soluble oil paint which to me sounds a bit strange as I thought water and oil were not good companions. I had never heard of water soluble paint before. Perhaps I should get out more!

Tatyana Creed's City Riverside Scene of cloudy skies and reflections is so different but no less interesting. There is a dark brooding, atmospheric and emotive feel to this work and I can imagine a John le Carre spy hiding in the shadows with long dark overcoat and trilby pulled down low. Tatyana didn't use a brush for this painting. She used a small palette knife about 2.5 cms long (that is about an inch in my language). A major difference is that Henry is more than two decades past retirement age whereas Tatyana (I am guessing here - it would be impolite to discuss a lady's age) is likely to have at least two decades to go before she will collect her pension! This age difference does go to illustrate that Elmswell Art Club is a club for all ages!



Two dates for your diary: 27th February from 10 am to 12 noon we shall be having a demonstration/workshop given by a noted local artist/lecturer Paul Seymour. He runs his own studio and has been a regular tutor at West Suffolk College. His subject will be the use of pen and ink and colour wash. Everyone is welcome and a charge of £4 per person will apply. On Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th October we shall be holding another Exhibition and Sale of Art Club members work. Entry to the Exhibition is free. *John Welford 01359 240166*

ART CLUB MEETS TUESDAY MORNINGS AT THE WESLEY

"Every artist was first an amateur" - Henri Matisse

COMPANIONS

At the last meeting of Companions for 2017 we enjoyed an excellent lunch which included salmon and salad, with Christmas pudding or fruit salad for dessert.

Entertainment was provided by the Stowmarket Strummers, a Ukulele band - with nine ukulele players and an accordionist. Their music included some old favourites, some more up to date songs, in which we all joined, and some carols.

Companions is a friendly group for those suffering from dementia, for Carers and for those who would just like some company for a couple of hours once a fortnight. We play crib, scrabble, do jigsaws and colouring or just sit and chat. Coffee, tea and biscuits are served throughout our time together.

Our next meeting will be at the Wesley Hall on 5 January 2018 from 10.15am to 12 noon.

YOUR DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS ARE



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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

At our meeting on 14 December we welcomed seven members of the Colchester Waits Shawm Band. From the Middle Ages to the 18th Century, Colchester, like many other towns and cities, employed a band of musicians to entertain the townspeople and to perform at civic events. The group of players who entertained us is a part of a re-creation of that band and plays various instruments such as the shawm (similar to the oboe), trumpet, sackbutt, cornett, bagpipe, recorders and gemshorns (similar to the ocarina). They were dressed in blue livery, based on the medieval uniform worn by the original band.

During the evening the band played various pieces from the 13th Century, through the 14th and up to the 15th Century, including some from various European countries and a few carols, for example – The Boar's Head Carol, Coventry Carol and Gaudate. These accomplished musicians gave us an interesting evening of music which illustrated their enthusiasm for their fascinating hobby.

The music was followed by a buffet prepared by members of the History Group, during which time the winners of the free raffle were announced. We congratulate them and thank the Elmswell Butchers, Elmswell Co-op and the Mace Shop for their generosity in donating vouchers to be spent in their shops.

ELMSWELL OVER 55's

On Saturday 9th December we ended our year with our Christmas party with 70 members and friends and guests sitting down for a lovely meal and great entertainment by Pat James. Over the past year we have had great entertainment on 10 evenings plus a fish and chips supper, strawberry supper, harvest supper, 3 day trips. A summer holiday to Bournemouth and 4 bingo nights a very busy and good year. Our first meeting will be on February 22nd when we hope to see all our members, and would like to invite any newcomers to join us. The members and the committee would like to thank Dian and Grant for all their hard work throughout the year.

Herbert (Vice Chairman)



Our next meeting is on 11 January 2018, when the speaker will be Geoff Clarke, with cine films from his collection, 'Suffolk from the Air' and 'A walk round East Anglia'.

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 LUNCHEON CLUB

The Elmswell Luncheon Club ended another successful year with their popular Christmas festivities at The Bull, Woolpit.

On Monday December 4th members enjoyed a delicious spread of seasonal fare provided by Paul and his team. A Christmas style raffle was held and every member received specially wrapped gifts organised by Stella and Margaret. The lunch was rounded off with a cup of tea and a slice of the wonderful Christmas cake once again kindly provided by Jean Barker.

After the Christmas break the Luncheon Club starts up again on Monday January 8th so, if you are 55+ and retired and want to join a happy, friendly group then please phone one of our Committee members on 241546 or 240268 for full details.

We meet at The Bull each Monday and transport to and from Elmswell is provided.

ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month we held our Christmas lunch. Once again our thanks to Mrs. Hubbard and her team for serving a delicious meal which was enjoyed by all. Betty Phillips made the lovely table decorations which she kindly donated to members of the committee at the end of the afternoon. Thanks Betty for all your hard work. Jean Turner kindly played for us while we sang carols after lunch. Our thanks to Jean for kindly giving up her time to play for us.

Our thanks to the committee and particularly Juliet for all their hard work during the year. It is much appreciated.

We wish all our members a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2018.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday February 20th when we will be holding a Beetle Drive.

New members always welcome.

Enquiries to Carol 242 884



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





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ANOTHER SLIMMING WORLD SESSION AT BLACKBOURNE

Slimming World, the UK's largest group-based weight loss organisation, has enjoyed years of success at Blackbourne. Stacey's well established Tuesday evening sessions regularly draw over 100 members each week from across a wide range of ages and, contrary to popular belief, with a fair sprinkling of men.

Carla Bond, a trained consultant and already with an established Ixworth Slimming World group, is now offering to share her experience of losing 3 stone in weight – and not putting it back on – with Elmswell at weekly sessions on Thursday mornings at 9.30am at The Blackbourne.

The latest government figures reveal that around one in four adults are obese and it is estimated that, by 2034, this will increase to one in three. The Slimming World approach is that support is really the most important thing, dealing with the feeling that you're not alone and offering weekly help, encouragement and the understanding of both the Consultant and of the group. The process includes setting targets, sharing recipes and other ideas, and working together as a group to overcome challenges and celebrate success. There is an eating plan that encourages you to eat lots of tasty, filling foods like pasta, rice, potatoes and lean meat and fish. You are never hungry and no foods are banned, so there's no deprivation – it offers a way to lose weight without starving yourself.

For more information or to join Carla's group either pop along on Thursday mornings from 4th January or call her on 07900 810636. For more information on the Slimming World techniques, visit www.slimmingworld.co.uk or call 0344 897 8000.



CARLA BOND IS SET TO SHARE HER SLIMMING SUCCESS

A slimmer who transformed her life by losing 3 stone is using her success to shape a whole new career helping other people change their lives and achieve their weight loss dreams too. Carla trained as a Consultant for Slimming World, the UK's largest group-based weight loss organisation, at their national training academy in Derbyshire in 2016 relaunching a group in Ixworth in January 2017. Now she is opening a group in Elmswell at Blackbourne Community Centre on Thursday 4th January 9.30am.

The latest government figures reveal that around one in four adults are obese and it is estimated that, by 2034, this will increase to one in three. Carla says: "Obesity is becoming such a huge issue across the UK. When I first joined Slimming World as a member, I never dreamed that I would end up helping other people to lose weight. After losing 3 st and completing my training, it's a privilege for me to be able to pass on the experience, insight and understanding that helped me, so that I can give my members the support they need to get to target."

"Support is really the most important thing. It all starts with feeling that you're not alone. I couldn't have lost weight without the weekly help, encouragement and understanding of my own Consultant and group. As someone who has lost weight myself I know the challenges people can face, which is why, along with the group, I will be there to support every one of my members all the way to their chosen target weight. Setting targets, sharing recipes and other ideas, and working together as a group to overcome challenges and celebrate success is so important to a successful journey. That's why, at my Slimming World group, there'll be tons of support, encouragement and fun."

"Like a lot of slimmers, I had tried to lose weight so many times before by following numerous diets but they were never sustainable because I'd always get tired of restricting what I ate. I thought I was destined to struggle with my weight for the rest of my life, but when I came to Slimming World it was different. I never felt like I was on a diet. The eating plan encourages you to eat lots of tasty, filling foods like pasta, rice, potatoes and lean meat and fish, you are never hungry and no foods are banned so there's no deprivation. I couldn't believe I'd found a way to lose weight without starving myself."

Like Carla, Slimming World Consultants are all former members who have lost weight at their local group themselves and groups are set up as micro businesses in the heart of local communities. There are currently around 4,000 Slimming World Consultants across the UK and Ireland running 15,000 groups. Consultants receive training in Slimming World's healthy eating and physical activity programmes and learn how to use the power of group support to empower members to take control of their own weight loss journey.

Jason Perrio-Hunter, who runs Slimming World's Mid Suffolk group and manages Carla as a Team Developer, says: "Slimming World Consultants are chosen for their positive outlook and because they genuinely care about the health and happiness of others. With Carla's experience of being a successful Slimming World member and her kind and warm personality and great sense of humour I just know that she will continue to be an amazing support to members, cheering them all the way to their target weight."

Carla's new Slimming World group will be held at Blackbourne Community Centre, Elmswell every Thursday at 9.30 from January 4th.

For more information or to join Carla's group either pop along on Thursday 4th January or call him/her on 07900 810636.

Or: For more information visit www.slimmingworld.co.uk or call 0344 897 8000.

Carla pictured with the Slimming World founder, Margaret Miles-Bramwell when they met in November of this year.



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ELMSWHEELIANS 2017

Our last ride of the year was on Sunday 17th December, not the best of days to be on a bike. The day was actually quite bright and sunny, but the combination of severe cold and overnight frost, leaving the prospect of black ice on the roads, resulted in just 8 hardy souls turning out.

Our route took us out of the village along Ashfield Road to Norton Little Green, Hunston Green and into Hunston village. From there we had planned to go on to Langham and Badwell Ash, but some quite slippery sections of the lane going down into Hunston resulted in a change of route, and we shortened the ride to just 8 miles by coming home via Great Ashfield, Button Haugh Green, and back into the village via Ashfield Road.

Thankfully everyone made it safely, and we were all able to enjoy some very welcome refreshment at "The Fox", where we were joined by quite an impressive contingent of non-cyclists!

All in all a very pleasant, albeit challenging, morning.

So, no more rides now until the spring.

Watch this space for news of our 2018 activities.

Finally I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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



POPPY APPEAL

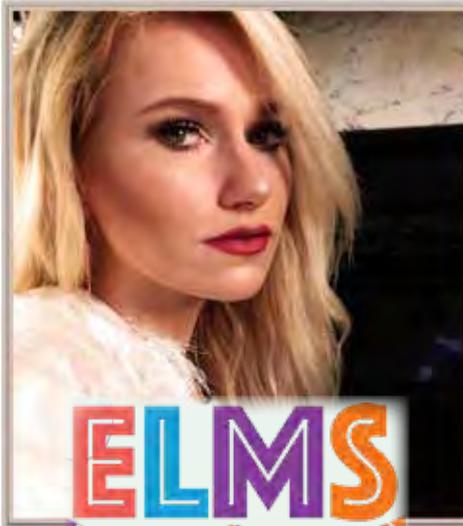
In the September edition of the newsletter I appealed to everyone to give generously to the Poppy Appeal. Everybody certainly did that – the total amount raised being £4,421.32p.

Grateful thanks are due to everyone who donated, helped with collection and to the shops and businesses who had collecting cans. This really was a fantastic amount.

I am still looking for a volunteer to take on the task of organiser from me and for volunteer collectors for later this year. Any interested persons please contact me.

Thank you once again.

Tony Chaplin, Poppy Appeal Organiser



FROM ELMSFEST TO A WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE

Francesca Thomas who grew up in Elmswell, also known as 'Winter', was one of the many acts when she performed as part of 'True Fable' at ELMSFEST this year. She has recently released a charity single featuring artists from across the globe. The single is a cover of Little Mix's "Pretend It's OK" and features artists from Germany, France, USA, Tasmania and in England from Suffolk to Somerset. The project is raising money for both the Pink Ribbon Foundation & Cancer Research UK. When Francesca's best friend was diagnosed with cancer in her 20's she wanted to do something to raise money and awareness of the fact that cancer can strike at any age.

The single also includes children from Winters Academy Dance & Performing Arts singing as well as performing in the music video alongside Miss Somerset, True Fable and many more. Winters Academy, based in Elmswell, hold dance classes at the Blackbourne every Wednesday.

The musical accompaniment was organised by Anne Burton, one of Suffolk's top jazz musicians. Anne also sings and plays on the single.

Earlier in the year the idea caught the interest of an ex-record label executive and producer, Paul Beavis, who lent his time and skills towards producing the polished final mix that's now available on iTunes, Amazon, Google Play and all good download stores for pre-order. You can keep up to date, see the music video teaser and so much more by liking the Facebook pages below.

You may remember Winter

www.facebook.com/wintersoloartist

www.facebook.com/truefable

www.jaguarwarriors.co.uk



COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Latest figures from Church Road from 23rd November 2017 to 14th December 2017 (3 weeks)

Total number of vehicles
78,610 (72,586)

Highest speed
75 mph on Thursday 23rd November 2017 at 21-50

Weekly count
Average daily 3,966 (3,581) (5 day)
3,596 (3,320) (7 day)

AM peak 0800 - 0900

226 (184) (5 day)

180 (149) (7 day)

PM peak 17-00 - 18-00

485 (471) (5 day)

411 (400) (7 day).

Speeds

Figures in brackets are from the previous report.

Of the 78,610 (72,586)

0 exceeded 90mph (0)

0 exceeded 85mph (0)

0 exceeded 80mph (0)

2 exceeded 75mph (0)

3 exceeded 70mph (4)

10 exceeded 65mph (12)

49 exceeded 60mph (84)

232 exceeded 55mph (327)

1,302 exceeded 50mph (1,474)

4,765 exceeded 45mph (5,118)

11,955 exceeded 40mph (12,034)

26,781 exceeded 35mph (26,189)

Only 33,511 (27,344) were within the legal limit of 30mph.

Although vehicle numbers are up quite considerably (in excess of 6,000), why we do not know, speeding is down. Maybe this had something to do with Speed Enforcement being out in the village.

Wishing you all a safe Christmas and a slower New Year.

To help keep Elmswell safer by joining the CSW volunteers, contact:

Mo Couling on 0777 4695784

mocouling@gmail.com



way of reflecting on Christmas in a slightly different way. The children moved around 5 areas of the church, thinking about some of the main characters and events of Christmas. The church was then lit splendidly with candles for our moving Nine lessons and Carols service, a lovely traditional way of engaging with the coming of the Saviour.

It was a privilege again to welcome Little Elms and Elmswell Community Primary School as they held their Christmas nativity and carol celebrations in St John's in mid-December. It is always lovely to see the church full of excitement as well as people. Christmas Eve was amazing again – a packed out, fun afternoon family nativity (“I can’t Wait for Christmas”) and our more reflective late night communion, which saw in Christmas Day.

There is always lots going on at St John's and everyone is always welcome. Remember this is your church – it is for everyone. If you'd like to know more 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 do check us out on facebook.

So, we head into 2018. Yes, we do face major challenges as we seek to repair the chancel ceiling and replace the south aisle roof, following the theft of over 4 tons of lead. But despite the odd hard hat and lots of fund-raising, it remains business as usual. We will continue supporting the needs of those nearby (e.g. through the Stowmarket foodbank) and those far away (e.g. through tearfund). We will also continue to make know the love of God to all. Perhaps you feel you need to experience his love and compassion or are seeking meaning in life. Why not come along or get in touch? Encountering Jesus can be life-changing.

Here are our services for January, but do keep an eye out on our web site and facebook page for other events, such as quiz night, film night, mens breakfast, pancake party... etc.

Sunday 7th January

9:30am All Age Epiphany Service
11:00am BCP Morning Prayer plus Communion

Sunday 14th January

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

Sunday 21st January

9:30am Breakfast Church (breakfast from 9am)
11:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 28th January

10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 4th February

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

Save the date...

Sat 3 Feb

19:00 Quiz Night at St John's tickets £10 including hot meal

Tue 13 Feb

16:30 Pancake Party at St John's

Sat 3 Mar

16:00 & 19:00 Film Night at St John's

Sun 25 Mar

14:30 St John's Spring Walk leaving from the Rectory



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Happy New Year from all at St John's Church – a welcoming church for all ages!

What a wonderful festive season Christmas is! At St John's, we kicked off December with an amazing Christingle celebration - oranges, ribbon, cocktail sticks, sweets and a candle reminding us how Jesus is the reason for the season and the light of the world.

Candles continued to play a significant part during the rest of the month. Year 5 and 6 from the primary school enjoyed seeing lots of candles lit as they came to the church to “Discover Advent” in early December. The Cathedral's Discovery Centre helped us set up this engaging





ST JOHN'S FLOODLIGHTING

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

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

Thank You and a Happy New Year to all.

JANUARY 2018 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 6 remembering Evelyn Simpson, with love. "God Bless".
- 10 in loving memory of a dear friend, Les Pamment.
- 13 in loving memory of my mother Eileen Fraser on her Birthday.
- 19 in loving memory of Natasha Smith.
- 22 in loving memory of Rob Dalby, on his Birthday, with love from all the family.
- 23 in loving memory of Ricky Woolnough's Birthday.
- 27 anon.

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



December was as predicted a very busy month for us at the Baptist Church, culminating in our Carols by Candlelight service on Christmas Eve and our New Year's Eve service, entitled "Who Do You Think You Are" where we all took a small part in the service either by choosing a hymn, reading a passage from the Bible, offering a prayer, or offering a mini sermon which looked at the genealogy of Jesus from the female line talking about Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary, all formidable ladies mentioned in the Bible as ancestors of Jesus. We have these services periodically through the year when Tony our Secretary who organises our preachers rota might have a Sunday when we have no preacher, gets us to put on our thinking caps and have what we know as a D.I.Y. service

We now look forward to 2018 in the hope and trust that it will see a brighter future for our nation, in that the Brexit negotiations will reach an amicable resolution, Ipswich Town might reach the Championship Playoffs, England might do well in the World Cup, and Elmswell will continue to prosper.

Our activities restart in January with:-

7th January Ladies Friendship Group meet at 7.45pm for Jenny's surprise evening. Contact Margaret on 241541 if you would like to join the ladies.

11th January at midday food and friends lunch looking forward to meeting friends, old and new contact Jackie on 241581 if you would like to join us.

Our Preachers in the next few weeks will be:-

- 7th January Stephen Spurgeon
- 14th January Stephen Spurgeon
- 21st January Eddie Kerridge
- 28th January Kevin Moore
- 4th February Rev Barbara Challis

As ever we extend a warm welcome to anyone wishing to join us at any of our activities or services Contact Tony on 241541 or visit our Website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk. It only remains for me on behalf of everyone at the Baptist Church to wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year.

Dave Hollings



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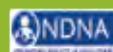
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AROUND AND ABOUT



The Newsletter in-house photographer for several years was Vince Woodward who produced many memorable photographs and encouraged many others to try to do likewise. Here is a piece from Vince from Bali where he witnessed – and photographed, of course, the eruption of Mount Agung.

I'd learned to Scuba Dive in Bali four years ago and now with 100 dives under my belt a trip back to where it all began with a group of 35 from Diviline in Ipswich, seemed too good an offer to pass by.

It's a four-hour journey from Denpasar Airport to Tulamben, fighting against the heavy city traffic followed by more rural narrow twisting mountain roads with the multitude of mopeds with entire Balinese families onboard. The closer we came towards Tulamben, the clearer the view became of Mount Agung, a gentle wisp of white volcanic emission escaping from its crater. Once settled at the hotel, the Bintang flowed freely and any threat of an eruption seemed much further than the 12.5km from the crater.

The next morning messages of concern started arriving with family fearing the worst after reading the headlines. 'Villagers flee volcanic eruption', 'Volcano erupts spewing volcanic ash'. No doubt fuelled by the eruption of 1963 it seemed the rest of the world was more afraid of the volcano than we were. It became a morning and evening ritual to photograph the eruption, from a wisp on the day we arrived to thick grey plumes of smoke billowing high onto the atmosphere on the day our inevitable evacuation arrived.

With the wind blowing the volcanic ash south easterly, the airport at Denpasar and neighbouring Lombok were closed. Having been transferred to a 5 star resort made the uncertainty of departure more comfortable. Plans were in place to transport stranded guests via a 18 hour trip via Java and roads and telephone networks started to jam with demand for information and the desire to talk to loved ones increasing.

Ultimately, nature took control, the wind changed and normal flights resumed albeit the journey home delayed by 48 hours.



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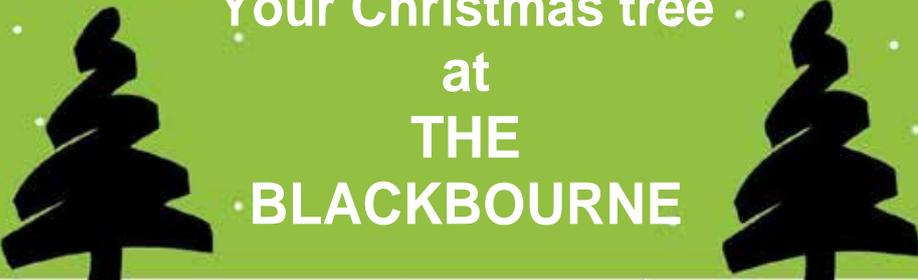


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NEWS FROM THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Proposed cuts to free school bus provision by Suffolk County Council could split communities in Woolpit and Elmswell. Suffolk County Council is proposing to stop providing free bus transport to Thurston Community College to residents that live nearer to another school, even though Thurston will remain the catchment school for all the children in these villages. This means that some children will get free transport to Stowmarket High School while friends who live a few yards away will continue to get transport to Thurston Community College. We think this will be unfair and divisive.

We hope all residents will respond to the Suffolk County Council consultation to oppose the proposed changes. Even if you do not have school-age children, this will affect your community.

Suffolk County Council is consulting on three options:

1. Change to “nearest school only” wholesale in September 2019 (all students in all year groups would no longer qualify for free transport to Thurston Community College if they live closer to a different secondary school).
2. Change to “nearest school only” incrementally, from September 2019 (same as above, but existing students would continue to receive free transport while new students, including siblings, do not).
3. Make no changes to the school travel policy, but make savings from other Suffolk County Council budgets.

Thurston Community College will continue to oppose options 1 and 2 which we have shown will not make savings but will result in additional costs elsewhere. **Option 3 is the only way to maintain our strong relationships with village primaries and to ensure that all**

children in Woolpit and Elmswell continue to have the choice to attend Thurston Community College and its Sixth Form.

We urge all local people to make their views known to Suffolk County Council by responding to the consultation by 28 February 2018. The questionnaire can be completed online here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5to16HtoS>

Full information about the consultation is available here: www.suffolk.gov.uk/schooltravel

If you want to know more about our campaign against the proposed changes, please visit the College website: <http://www.thurstoncollege.org/Information/Home-to-School-Transport/>



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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

Winter treats

It may be January but there are more colours in the winter palette than just blue. If you take a walk around Lukeswood at this time of year you can find plenty of colour to lift the spirits and blow away those post-Christmas cobwebs.

As our photos show, the leaves may be down but there are still many vibrant greens still on show – moss on the trunks of the fallen black poplar, dark and green leaves of the evergreen holly, and the glossy green of the ivy. There may still be some berries clinging on, like the gorgeous pink and orange of the spindle (the orange is the seed, hidden inside its pink casing), the dark purple of the ivy berries and the scarlet splash of the rosehips. Enjoy them now before hungry birds devour them all! Frosty weather gives fallen leaves a silvery fringe and even raindrops can

give everything a sparkle. Well worth wrapping up warm and getting out in the open air to enjoy all of these winter treats. You can also find some catkins appearing on the hazels – just a hint of spring to chase away the winter blues!

Wonderful willow

Join us for willow cutting and weaving on Saturday 6th January, 9.30 to midday. Every year we cut the willow which was planted near the pond about five years ago. Cutting each year's growth means that the trees will grow into pollards and produce new shoots each spring. The willow wands can be used for all sorts of weaving projects. We are using ours to make a backing to the pole barn to enhance this shelter. Everyone is welcome to come and join in (or just come and see how it's done). If you'd like to

help with the cutting please bring gloves and, if you have them, secateurs or loppers. There will be some small pieces of willow to take away if you are feeling creative and would like to make something – a base for a wreath (perhaps for next Christmas's decorations?), a dream catcher, or anything that takes your fancy. There will be a **campfire and refreshments** to warm everyone up. A great way to start the new year – come and give it a go!



Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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 Guides Trefoil Guild (1st Tuesday monthly) 7.00 – 9.00
 Karate 7.15 – 8.15

Wednesday
 Scouts 5.45 – 9.00
 Jujutsu martial arts class 7.00 – 9.00
 Winters Academy – dance classes 4.00 – 6.00

Thursday
 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
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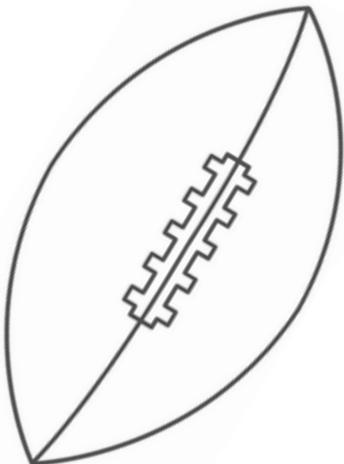
You will need:

- Wool or Ribbon
- Card
- Scissors
- Pencil

Instructions:

- Using your pencil draw out your rugby ball
- Cut out your shape
- Using your hole punch make holes around the sides
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Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August. The December meeting took place on 18th at The Blackbourne with 8 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Members Mrs Sarah Mansel & John Levantis.

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 November 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 proposed budget changes include the following savings from each service:

Adult and Community Services - £12m

Working with care providers to look at how best to manage future pricing structures and working with partners including health to reduce demand.

Health, Wellbeing and Children's Services - £0.25m

Moving towards using digital technology, maximising income and working with Suffolk Libraries to agree a fixed price contract for next four years.

Fire and Public Safety - £0.24m

Savings from 'blue-light' collaboration including sharing facilities with the police and ambulance services. Further efficiencies within Trading Standards and Health & Safety. Reduction in Citizens Advice grants.

Resource Management - £1.71m

Use evidence-based approach to reduce highways maintenance requirements where possible. Continue to make best use of property, saving money by sharing buildings with public sector partners. Review contracts for IT services.

Corporate Services - £9.7m

Reprofiling debt repayment in line with recent guidance, maximising efficiencies in contract management and increasing the returns from Wholly Owned Companies.

In addition the report detailed a proposal to increase council tax by 1.99%, following a seven-year freeze. This equates to £1.14 per week for Band D property and 88p per week for Band B (majority of properties in Suffolk). £27 million further savings are needed to balance the budget.

BWMA

A report tabled by the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association, which administers the Council's facilities at both sites, confirmed that work is under way to convert the ladies toilet for easier access and use to compensate for the loss of the disabled facility in the Exchange Hall. The demolition of the Exchange Hall, which will provide 6 more car park spaces, has been awarded to Finch (Elmswell) Ltd, who submitted the lowest of 3 written quotations and whose work is well known locally. Planning permission and Building Regulation certification will be

required prior to commencement of the work and the use of the Wesley will need to take account of the process once it is underway.

Wall heaters in the Hall were discussed and defective units are to be replaced. The meeting noted that the average heating cost per week over the past 3 cold weeks was £43.21.

The expansion of the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne to create more storage space has been approved by the Council and is with the architect towards a Planning application. A drop-down screen and ceiling mounted projector for the Chamberlayne remain a frequently requested facility and various options are under consideration.

The letting fee structure, which was circulated prior to the previous meeting and which the resulting feed-back had further informed, was presented for approval and was adopted by the meeting.

The Treasurer announced a year-to-date income of £29,905 and of £3,343 for the Blackbourne and the Wesley respectively. The total projected annual turnover is £47K.

Bookings at the Blackbourne are buoyant and the committee confirmed its intention to take the Wesley in the same direction.

It was noted that substantive issues relating to the annual Agreements with the sports clubs are, as a matter of custom and practice, dealt with directly by EPC given the considerable element of control regarding maintenance of the village's facilities vested in the Agreements and that recent discussions involving the Bowls Club have reflected this approach.

District Council

Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel tabled a written report which included confirmation that the public consultation on a proposed merger of Mid Suffolk and Babergh Councils has now begun. Information is available on the website and there is an online survey at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OneCouncil. Town and parish councils have been contacted. The consultation period runs until 5th February.

With regard to the Budget for 2018/19, early indications suggest that there is likely to be a small increase in Council Tax. Last week's Cabinet meeting looked at the proposed budget in this early stage in preparation for the draft budget in the next month or so. Responding to a question from Councillors,

it was confirmed that the bungalows at Manns Court which were contaminated by heating oil and have stood empty for more than 2 years are to be demolished and new housing provided in their place. District Council officers accept that the time scale for this process has been needlessly lengthy and have apologised. Meanwhile, the empty wardens' flat within the main Manns Court complex is to be made available to suitable short-term homeless families.

Cllr John Levantis also tabled a report which included details of the proposed regeneration of the Council's Needham Market headquarters site on which a final recommended option will be presented to Council in February for debate and Cabinet for approval in early March. A Planning application will be submitted following Cabinet approval in March.

Cllr Levantis also reported that the 2 Councils have appointed Icen Homes as their partner towards the production of an affordable housing development programme. Early focus is on the sites acquired from Suffolk County Council at Needham Market Middle School, Stowmarket Middle School and Paddock House Eye.

Regarding considerations for a single MSDC/BDC Authority, public engagement on the issue will take place on the part of both councils in the event that both bodies decide formally that this is the best way forward.

Home-school transport

Cllr Mike Friend reported on a recent Suffolk Association of Local Councils Area Meeting when some details behind SCC proposals for cuts in provision for children travelling to any other than their nearest school were aired. Public consultation is now being undertaken on ways to trim the £21m budget currently spent on this aspect of Education spending. Elmswell Parish Council has already submitted objections to the proposals and further details on the consultation are available at schooltravel@suffolk.gov.uk or by ringing 0345 603 1842.

Planning Result noted:

DC/1703737 Change of use of land for the siting of container...Lay-by at Bunkers Hill Refused EPC objected

PP/W3520/W/17/3182865 Erection of detached dwelling Hill Farm Barn, Ashfield Road, Appeal dismissed

DC/17/03876 Housing development at Railway Tavern, School Road – Application withdrawn

Planning Applications:

DC/17/05409 for the erection of single storey dwelling, detached garage and vehicular access at Mulberry Farm, Ashfield Road

The Meeting objected to this application for the following reasons

- 1 The application seeks to benefit from the permission granted ref 2705/16 under the 2015 GPDO exemption as a Class Q development. This establishes the principle of domestic use for the converted building on the grounds of its previous use for agricultural storage, as a stock barn, and piggery. The constraints implicit in the Order do not encompass the more stringent requirements of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act under which this application is made.
- 2 The original building having been, in the interim, demolished, this application is for a new site in the countryside within the setting of a listed building within the constraints of the 1990 Act.
- 3 The proposal clearly exceeds the original footprint in that it includes a double garage with store above in an arrangement that would make conversion into separate habitable living space a matter of Permitted Development.
- 4 The changes in fenestration and roof pitch present a result detrimental to the setting of Mulberry Farm House, a Listed Building.
- 5 The amended route of the driveway further detracts from the setting of the main house creating a result which is at odds with the cohesive relationship which exists between the farm house and its outbuildings.
- 6 NPPF paragraph 132 has it that, in circumstances such as this, the harm done to the heritage asset should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal. In the context of Elmswell's current development pressures, with over 800 dwellings at various stages of the Planning process and with building-out of these dwellings already impinging, the public benefit of another dwelling is minimal.
- 7 NPPF paragraph 55 states that any assessment of sustainability should have reference to the effect on the host community on its vitality. As above at 6, Elmswell is under pressure to sustain the housing development it has, in recent short order, had to accept. This

application is a further strain on the very stressed community infrastructure and, as such cannot be deemed to be sustainable.

- 8 Given that NPPF strictures do not, therefore, hold sway here, Councillors have reference to Local Plan Policy H7 which protects the character and appearance of the countryside outside of settlement boundaries, as is the case here. Further, Policy GP1 looks to maintain and enhance the character and appearance of the surroundings, a test which this application signally fails.

DC/17/04954 for the erection of single storey extension at The Stag Café, A14 Slip Road, Woolpit

The Meeting objected to this application as the site is currently subject, under references 0668/10 & 3325/11/NMA, to Planning Enforcement action. An extension to a building which does not enjoy the benefit of full Planning permission should not be countenanced.

DC/17/05923 Application for consent to carry out works to tree(s) protected by a tree preservation order

1 Grange Meadows

The Meeting objected to this application for the following reasons:

- 1 No sound reason is given for the scheduled works. Size and inconvenient shading are insufficient justification for the scale and nature of the proposal. The trees appear at the moment to be healthy.
- 2 Works to the ashes will encourage the development of cholera in the new growth.
- 3 The proposals for this scale of surgery in light of little evident justification would, if granted, make similarly poorly-founded applications difficult to resist.

The Meeting supported:

DC/17/05668 Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension

2 Cooks Road

DC/17/05984 Application for consent to carry out works to tree(s) protected by a tree preservation

Order Chart House, Church Road

HGV traffic

Recognising the serious shortcomings on the part of SCC Highways in servicing the road network so as to keep users and residents safe, Councillors agreed to allocate £99.00 towards the provision of, 'No Goods Vehicles Over 7.5 tonnes', signs to reinforce the

voluntary one-way system for HGV's through the village. Signs will be installed at Shop corner to prevent HGV's using School Road to exit the village to A14 and at New Road to try to prevent them using this route into the village rather than the one already signed.

Audit

The Council's finances and governance are examined 3 times each year. One such occasion is the Internal Audit by Councillors which is when the Council Chairman, Vice chairman and another Member chosen by Council by formal vote are given open access to all of the files and accounts, both electronic and hard copy, towards close examination as they see fit and a report back to Council which then goes forward to the Council's independent professional Internal Auditor as part of the second layer of audit. Cllr David Barker was asked to join the audit team which will undertake its examination in January.

Budget

A recent training session open to all Councillors reviewed a draft budget prepared by the Clerk as the Council's Responsible Finance Officer which drew on historical figures and informed projections towards a total requirement in terms of income for the 2018 / 2019 financial year. Major items include the development of the Wesley site as a viable and attractive community facility as well as the final stages of the Neighbourhood Plan and continued lobbying towards recognition of the aspirational Relief Road within the Planning system. The outturn figure of £336,304.00 was set against projected income of £325,782.00 assuming a 1.9% increase in the Precept sum required of Mid Suffolk via the Council Tax. Various levels of Council Tax levy were detailed for discussion and a Proposal is to go to the January meeting by which time certain key Central Government decisions on the key Local government Finance Settlement will have been published.

Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 15th January 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 14th JANUARY

beginning at 11.00 am from the village sign.

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

Dogs on leads welcome – stout shoes recommended



Your councillors are:

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Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640 07860 395720	peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk
Mike Friend 22 Mill Gardens ELMSWELL IP30 9DQ	01359 241699	mike.friend@easidoor.co.uk
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk
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Fred Pallett Maple House Warren lane ELMSWELL IP30 9 DT	01359 244144 07771 962441	fjp@oilgasassociates.com
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Chris Wiley 28 Gardener's Walk ELMSWELL IP30 9 ET	07544 762448	chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk

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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.

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
15th	19th	19th	16th	21st

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



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.

January 2018

- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 8 7.45pm Elmswell Baptist Church - Ladies Friendship Group - A Jenny's Surprise Evening
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Lavenham Butchers - Gareth
- 11 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Geoff Clarke: "Cine film of East Anglia"
- 11 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

February 2018

- 2 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 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

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"
- 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
- 25 14:30 St John's Spring Walk leaving from the Rectory

April 2018

- 4 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Lynne Ready & Marilyn Bartrup - The Gap Year Pensioners
- 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
- 20 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

May 2018

- 2 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. G.M. and Resolutions
- 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
- 18 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

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 Scoles 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
- 22 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 29 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

July 2018

- 4 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Edward Jackson - The Beauty Of Moths

- 10 Social evening - Elmswell Evening WI
- 13 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 20 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 27 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 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
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

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
- 21 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

October 2018

- 3 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Chris Parfitt An Illustrated Visit to The Isle Of Skye (Highland Games Included)
- 5 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Speaker Jenny Martin British Red Cross
- 12 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

November 2018

- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Graham Higgins The Real Robin Hood
- 9 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Jen Lerner Circle dancing
- 16 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 30 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

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, Children's dance classes, Companions, Exchange Club, Gardening Club, History Group, Ju Jutsu, Karate, Pilates, Mardle Quilters, Slimming World & WI (afternoon and evening groups).

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