

'Like a friend dropping in'



# The Elmswell Newsletter



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

May 2018

## EXCHANGE - gone!

## CHANGE - on the way



...see page 17

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](mailto:eea.elmswell.org.uk) We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

.....  
**May is far more than just a beleaguered politician. It is a time of hope, rebirth, and the merry expectation of the joys of a new year heralded by Spring. It is promise and potential and prospects and pole-prancing. It is, unaccountably, summed up in the time-honoured, 'Hey Nonny Nonny', once the province of medieval rap lyrics and Baldrick.**



### A time, therefore for planning.

For our purposes here, let us have a capital, 'P'. 'Planning'. What do the 'Planners' have in store for us from their Westminster / Ipswich citadels? We may feel that, with a worst-case scenario of 634 new houses shoe-horned into a community of some 1700 dwellings over the next few years that we've had our fair share. Without our 'aspirational' relief road, surely we've taken enough? Remove the through traffic from our village; let the relief road relieve the frustration, danger and pollution of the wait at the crossing gates and we can, at least on one count, accept development. Do nothing and the situation on our roads becomes ridiculous, and dangerous. Our Community Speed Watch volunteers, boots on the ground, week in and week out certainly think so – see their piece on page 13.

The Parish Council has fought the village's corner throughout the recent developer assaults, and their latest objection indicates an equally worrying trend. In their Report (page 27) they confirm their opposition to *warehousing, storage yards, offices and parking* on a large scale at Lawn Farm opposite Warren Lane. Our Councillors suggest that such a, '*major imposition in the countryside...cannot be determined without a strategic overview*'. In other words, you can't just plonk an enormous lump of industrial development in a few empty fields without some joined up thinking. In this case, the thinking should, perhaps, be joined up with the proposals right next door at Haughley Park. Here the, 'Haughley Park Consortium', has recently surfaced offering to '*enhance and improve the setting of the important heritage assets at Haughley Park*', together with, '*the potential relocation of an existing employment site and possible housing...*' We may think of Haughley Park as bluebells and Scout camps. Without a little of the, 'strategic overview', which really means looking beyond the developers' bottom line, there might simply be a hint remaining in

the eventual road names on the Haughley Park Housing Estate & Business Enterprise Park... Bluebell Walk, Campfire Crescent, Woggle Way?

The latest news is not cheering. Permission is granted for, '*1 No. petrol filling station and 2 No. drive-through restaurants together with various infrastructure....on Land off the A14, Elmswell.*'

This is neatly represented on the computer-aided design plans as tucked neatly between the new HGV inspection facility and A14 – half of the original plot on 'our' roundabout. It neatly shows the drive-through coffee shop next to a restaurant with parking for 57 cars, 4 petrol pumps and garage shop with 'food 2 go' facility and another 13 parking spaces. All neatly accessed from A14.

Concerns have been expressed regarding the slip roads leading into and out of the site off A14, particularly the latter. But, the way out is from the existing way out from the lorry test site which, the developer assures us, 'appears to work well...' Serious and informed suggestions that it might not work as well when required to take the traffic from the petrol station, shop, coffee shop and restaurant mixed in with the lorries crunching through their 18 gears have not swayed the decision. Neither have the objections from Woolpit and Elmswell parish councils and from many residents.

The sole resident supporting the scheme is from Norton. The speed suggested in the developer's presentation for traffic leaving A14 for a meal, coffee or fill-up might surprise our local Community Speed watch volunteers. Apparently it is 31mph. If this were maintained all the way into the village, our CSW friends would be out of an unpaid job.

But Permission is granted. On the way to the new industry at Lawn Farm / Haughley Park or to any of the new housing estates at Woolpit, Elmswell or Thurston it might reassure some to see the inviting golden arches of a drive-through body-fuel facility with the promise of a barista and coffee-to-go. Others might feel that we are hurtling towards a radical re-shaping of our immediate environment which, because of the failure of our District Council to have robust forward plans in place, is shaped by short term wealth creation unchecked and without a balancing input from the other side – the host community. That's us.

Of course, there are powers beyond Needham Market (apologies – Endeavour House, Ipswich) which encourage this free-for-all. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government is now, in the most recent Government merry-go-round, James Brokenshire. His predecessor, Sajid Javid repeatedly refused pleas from local communities, including Elmswell, to call-in large development proposals for proper consideration rather than rubber stamping. As the son of a former chief executive of a council local government, Mr Brokenshire has said, 'I look forward to working with councils across the country by supporting them to deliver quality public services and build strong integrated communities.'

Perhaps he'll come to our beleaguered corner of Suffolk and take a look at the gradual enforced disintegration of a, 'strong integrated community'? At least he is promised a cup of coffee and a burger on the way.



## Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by:

May 22nd June 26th July 24th August 30th September 27th, October 25th

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

Next to Chinese Mandarin, English is the second most widely spoken language in the world. Not bad for a dinky little island state, off the north east coast of Europe. The English language has such a wide vocabulary with an impressive number of ways of describing things but using different words. We have many words that sound the same but are spelt differently. Also, we have many words that are spelt the same but with a variety of meanings. Take the word "tight" for example. It could be used to describe a situation where increased weight means the clothes are not fitting so well, it might describe a close sports game or it could describe someone who is reluctant to buy a round of drinks in the pub! In the art world 'tight' is a way of describing a style of painting characterised by showing much detail and often using small brushes to create such work, as opposed to broad sweeping work using larger brush strokes. The two watercolour paintings this month are examples of tight paintings. The Scottish fishing boats are by Eddie Douglas and the flowers against a window were painted by Sue Hancock. Both Eddie and Sue are new members of the Art Club who joined earlier this year. New members are always welcome. Whether you have never painted before and would like to start a new hobby or whether you are an accomplished artist or just an infrequent dabbler, you are all welcome at our friendly and relaxed club.

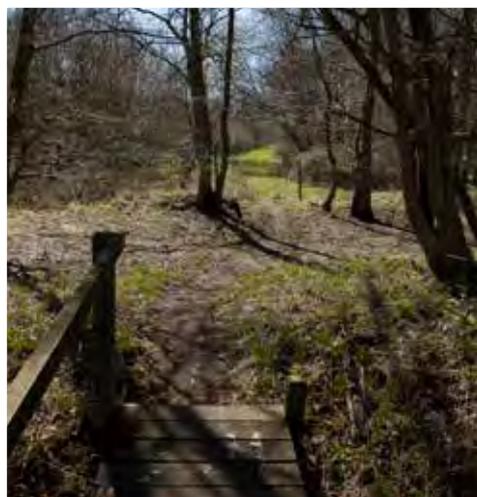
Date for the diary: 27th and 28th October Art Show at the Wesley.

John Welford 01359 240166

*"Don't think about making art, just get it done. Let everyone else decide if it's good or bad. Whether they like it or hate it, while they are deciding, make even more art."*

Andy Warhol

Art club meets Tuesday mornings at the Wesley.



## FOOTPATH WALK

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

**SUNDAY 11th MAY  
beginning at 11.00 am  
from the village sign.**

Open to all comers & led by  
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footpaths in and around Elmswell

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stout shoes recommended*

## ELMSWELL EXCHANGE (AFTERNOON) WI

The Gap Year Pensioners were our guests in April or was it the female equivalent of Morecambe & Wise ??? What a great afternoon we had with Lynne and Marilyn. There were certainly plenty of laughs. These ladies, who are also W.I. members in a Suffolk group, both lost their husbands within a short time of each other. Lynne mentioned that she would like to back pack around the world but needed a companion. Marilyn went home, gave it some thought, decided to retire and go with her. What a time they had. They ticked the boxes of Japan (the bullet train, Mt. Fuji & Hiroshima); Borneo (up the jungle in a rowing boat, green frogs in the toilet, golden spiders and organutans); Australia (Darwin, Alice Springs and down through the country in a camper van). What next you may ask ?? Well, if I tell you it was Tasmania, New Zealand, Fiji and across America you probably would not be surprised. To say that they "roughed it" would be an understatement. Two amazing women, who had a bucket list and went for it. We had a highly entertaining afternoon, at the same time travelling through numerous countries with them on the screen. Something inspiring coming from sadness and loss. They had our deepest admiration.

Next month like all W.I.s in the country, we have our AGM. Also it will be time to discuss the Resolution. There is only one this year, so it will be either for or against. This is about the importance of mental health issues and their parity with physical health.

Guests and new members are always welcome. We are a relaxed and informal group and for further details contact Mary on 245022 or Maureen on 241033.



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## ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

Our meeting on 12 April was our 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since those early days the group has grown and we have been entertained and informed by our speakers, we've held exhibitions and discovered a 1<sup>st</sup> World War airfield! Thanks to everyone who has supported the Group over these years and a special thank you to Elmswell Firefighters who have recently given us a very generous donation

Dr Nick Amor, a Solicitor from Bury St Edmunds was our speaker at the April meeting; his subject was 'The Suffolk Clothier in the age of Henry VII (1457-1509)'. This was the story of the manufacture of cloth in the area around South Suffolk (Bildeston, Hadleigh, Long Melford, Nayland, Sudbury, etc). One of the clothiers mentioned by our speaker was Thomas Spring III, also known as The Rich Clothier (1474-1523) who was said to be one of the wealthiest men in Europe. Not only did he own land for grazing huge numbers of sheep, but he employed people as shepherds, shearers and outworkers to manufacture the cloth and transport it to woolmarkets, etc.

The process of cloth manufacture was complex – after shearing, the wool was ready for sorting, then carding, spinning, weaving, fulling, dyeing and finishing ready for sale. Some of these processes are illustrated in local churches, for example a misericord in Norton Church shows carding taking place, a wall painting in Hessel Church shows fulling, in Sudbury Salters Hall has carvings which suggest the occupier owned a fulling mill.

The wealthy clothiers were generous at the end of life, many wills contain references to the way their money was distributed, money for roads, brasses for churches (eg Clare), education, care of the 'deserving poor', almshouses and so on – in Hadleigh there is a record which quotes '12 pence per week for 10 years for parish welfare'.

Nick's talk culminated with questions and answers and an opportunity to purchase his latest book, 'From Wool to Cloth: The triumph of the Suffolk Clothier'.

Our next meeting is on 10 May when Joan Munden will tell 'Nadine's Story in the Special Operations Executive (SOE)'. When doing some genealogical research into their family Joan and her cousin came across a relative who had been in the SOE and it will be her story that we hear.

Also at the May meeting tickets for the outing in July will be on sale. 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](http://www.elmswell-history.org.uk) or telephone Stella Chamberlin on 01359 242601.

## ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month we welcomed Martyn Taylor to our meeting. His talk was Victorian Bury St. Edmunds. We were shown a picture of Bury for every year of Queen Victoria's reign. These were wide ranging and Martyn had many interesting facts to share with us. We learnt about the woman in Bury jail who had poisoned her husband with arsenic in the dumplings in 1847 and was only charged as next doors' chickens died after eating the remaining dumplings! In 1859 Charles Dickens stayed at the Angel Hotel and spoke at the Athenaeum. In 1846 the railway came to Bury which enabled people to seek work elsewhere such as the cotton mills. In 1871 the Bury Fayre was abolished as people seemed to be enjoying themselves rather too much! In 1872 Bury Town football club started and is the 4th oldest in the country. The pictures showed how lucky we are to have so many interesting buildings in Bury with so much history attached to them. We are grateful to Martyn for a very interesting talk.

Sylvia Walton is celebrating her 90th birthday this month and we enjoyed a piece of cake with our cup of tea.

On Friday 4th of May the club will be going to Felixstowe for our annual visit. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us!

Our next meeting is on the 15th May and we will be visiting Sandringham. For further details please contact Anice.

New members are always welcome.

*Enquiries to Carol 242 884*

## ELMSWELL W.I.

After we had sung Jerusalem, Connor Yarrow, aged fifteen, told us how he had been chosen to represent Suffolk at the International Scout Jamboree, to be held in the U.S.A. in 2019. It is obviously a great honour to be selected. However, he needs to raise £4,000, in order to go. This sum includes money to sponsor a scout from the Third World. As well as collecting unwanted fabrics, curtains, clothes and shoes etc. and selling them for charity, he is going to carry out odd jobs around people's houses and gardens, for voluntary contributions. I am sure that there are many W.I. members, who would like some work done. We wish you the best of luck, Connor and hope you achieve your goal.

It was lovely to welcome back Daisy Shipp as our speaker for the evening. After teaching for several years, she decided to change careers and become a holistic therapist and masseur. She told us about all the different courses she has taken to become qualified. I don't know how she managed to fit everything in, apart from learning so many new skills!

Sylvia Wilson bravely offered to be a guinea pig and Daisy demonstrated reflexology techniques on her feet. It was fascinating to hear all about the different parts of the feet and how they are connected to other parts of the body. Apparently you can tell a lot about the health of a person from their feet. Reflexology has been practised for thousands of years and a sharpened bamboo stick was used in Ancient Egypt! There are five zones on each foot. Past and current injuries on the right-hand-side of the body may be detected by examining the right foot and the left foot is affected by the left-hand-side. A full treatment takes about an hour and Daisy massages perfumed oil or wax into the feet.

Daisy also practises Swedish massage and deep tissue massage and visits people in their homes to give them treatments. She spends one day per week in a salon in Bury St. Edmunds. Many of us were very interested in what Daisy had to say and I am sure that she will be acquiring some new clients...

After the birthday plants were given out, there were two special floral presentations. One was for Janet Baker, to thank her for all her many years of tireless work on the committee – she has given so much to our meetings and special occasions. Janet's preserves and baking, produced in large quantities, are renowned. The other presentation was in honour of Sylvia Walton's ninetieth birthday. What an achievement!

There was a competition on the theme of "daisies." Anna won with her wonderful watercolour painting of daisies, Sylvia came second and Lesley Reed, third.

*Rosie Collins 01359 241652*

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**

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



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## ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB



Keen gardener and author, Penelope Lively wrote "We garden for tomorrow, and thereafter. We garden in expectation. Gardening, you are no longer stuck in the here and now; you think backwards and forwards, you think of how this or that performed last year, you work out your hopes and plans for the next.... Everything will happen anyway, that is what it is programmed to do, but the point of being a gardener is that you can manipulate this marvellous process." This was the year our plant expectations were a little slow emerging. Sadly our plant table reflected the late start to Spring, but we hope to have an abundant crop for our June table.

What fun we had with our speaker, writer and BBC Radio Suffolk regular broadcaster, Karen Kenny, who gave us an informative and saucy talk on herbs. Karen informed us that the definition of herbs or herbage is anything that grows – especially the green parts of vegetation. In the dark distant past before antibiotics, herbs were consumed or employed for their culinary, medicinal or even spiritual qualities. The 17<sup>th</sup>

century herbalist and physician, Nicholas Culpeper, was famous for cataloguing and using hundreds of healing herbs. Unfortunately, some plant properties were listed according to their visual form. For example, Lungwort (*pulmonaria*) with its white spotted, lung-shaped leaves was meant to cure tuberculosis and eczema – we live in hope. Karen demonstrated a reliable way of checking if a herb is deadly. Grasp the leaf between forefinger and thumb and nibble the leaf's tip. If you keel over dead, the person who finds the leaf gripped in your dead fingers will know it's poisonous. Goose grass, known to schoolboys as 'sticky willy' is useful for sores, ulcers and will remove freckles. Karen urged us to brighten sad salads with Sweet Cicely which has an aniseed tang; or how about 'Jack by the Hedge' (garlic mustard) which may be seen under any hedgerow. The elder bush is widely used – not just for keeping witches away – but makes sweet syrups and wines and who could resist a bush with the botanical name 'Sambucus'. The humble nettle is awash with

great qualities. It makes delicious soup and wine, and its seeds are good for the libido. Apparently Henry VIII was aware of the seed's properties, but for extra lift he apparently put nettles in his codpiece. Karen urged us to sally forth with our 'tussy-mussy' under our nose and explore the countryside's larder. Warning: don't forget to grasp the leaf between forefinger and thumb before nibbling.

The station flower boxes are looking magnificent and Nick will be taking names for the watering rota next month. Also Catherine and Margaret will have tickets for an outing to Angelsey Abbey in July. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm at the Blackbourne. Geoff Hodge** makes a welcome return to help us get **Colour all year round in the 12-month Garden**. We are a friendly inclusive group and would love to welcome more members. Check us out as it is only £4.00 for visitors. If you require further information about the Gardening Club, please contact **Nick Chamberlin** on 242601.

## ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

Our meeting on April 5th saw the return of "Hank" for an evenings entertainment. It was also a time for celebration for two members who had birthdays recently Sylvia Walton reaching the grand age of 90 and Joyce Mulley at 80 years young.

By the time you find the Newsletter on your mat we will have had our first outing a mystery day out with a Carvery Lunch at "New Times" at Tiptree followed by a scenic tour of the Essex countryside.

Our next meeting at the Blackbourne is on May 19th when we welcome Jackie Raven as our entertainer.

For those people who spotted the mistake in last months write up, the Holiday to the Burlington Hotel on the Isle of Wight is departing on Monday 30th July with full payment due by June 1st.

Visitors /new members are always welcome to come along to our meetings details are listed in the Whats on section at the back of the Newsletter.

Grant (240943)



## SYLVIA WALTON CELEBRATES HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

One of our well known village residents celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 19<sup>th</sup> April - in case you had not heard, yes it was Sylvia Walton. She moved to Elmswell in 2005 from Dersingham in Norfolk, where she was a member of Sandringham W.I. She met the Queen on several occasions during her time there and was a guide at Sandringham Church.

Sylvia was born in Wolverhampton and after leaving school qualified as a State Registered Nurse, undertaking further training at Queen Charlotte's in London in midwifery and district nursing, a profession she carried out in Shropshire for 40 years until her retirement. Shortly after arriving in Shropshire she married her husband Peter and had a son Charles, who is Stud Groom at Elmswell Park Stud, hence her move to Elmswell. During her career she saw many changes including the introduction of antibiotics and the start of the N.H.S.

She is still actively involved in many groups in the village, both W.Is., Exchange Club, History Group, Over 55's, Stowmarket Flower Club, Companions and St. John's Church. Among her many talents she drew the illustrations for the Village Cookbook. Most of us have attended a fund raising event in "Sylvia's Famous Garage" where she has supported a Sri Lankan Orphanage and McMillan Cancer Care to name but a couple.

She has become one of Elmswell's best known characters, still driving her tangerine flyer and welcoming villagers in for tea and homemade cakes.

Sylvia has asked me to thank everyone in the village for their cards, (she had over 150), gifts, flowers and cakes she has received over the past week.



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## ELMSFEST

As It's only been one month since our last newsletter article, yet we have even more exciting news to announce....

We are thrilled to say that the RAF will be performing a Spitfire flypast over ElmsFest this year! 2018 marks 100 years since the formation of the Royal Air Force, so we are absolutely delighted to be able to welcome them over the skies of Elmswell.

ElmsFest takes place on Sunday 02 September at Blackbourne, from 12:00 to 17:00. No booking necessary, just turn up on the day...we have plenty of parking available.

Our aim is to promote all the clubs, charities and organisations that make Elmswell one of the most active villages in Suffolk. So, if you or your group would like to participate in this year's fair, please contact Mike or Chris, via the details below. We have indoor and outdoor pitches available for crafts, fundraisers and general promotion of local groups.

Our main attraction will be Ridgeside Falconry & Little Nippers – a professional flying and static bird display with dog racing. On the live music stage, we welcome back performances from Kate McCabe, Harry Cambridge (Luther Vandross tribute) and True Fable.

For bookings or general enquiries, please email [bookings@elmsfest.info](mailto:bookings@elmsfest.info) or contact Mike on 01359 241699 or Chris on 07544762448.

Many thanks to our sponsors:

Park Garage Services, Suffolk Event Catering, Harvey Clinics and East of England Co-op.



## ELMSWHEELIANS 2018

On a beautiful, warm, sunny morning 11 riders escaped the lure of the London Marathon and the normal Sunday chores to do our first ride of the year.

Leaving the village via Church Hill, we cycled to Tostock, Beyton Green, and on to Rougham, where we took a circuitous route past Rougham Church, to Blackthorpe, then under the A14 to join the new cycle path network that took us across the old airfield, past the Control Tower, to the roundabout near the new Sybil Andrews Academy, on the edge of Moreton Hall. From there we rounded the airfield to begin our return via Thurston, where we enjoyed a brief refreshment stop in the garden of "The Fox & Hounds". Then on to Tostock Green and back into the village up Church Hill.

Distance cycled was just in excess of 16 miles.

All-in-all, a thoroughly enjoyable ride.

### Other Rides planned :

**Sunday 27th May**  
(start at 11.00 a.m. - 15 miles approx.)

**Sunday 24th June**  
(evening ride - starting at 6.00 p.m. - 15 miles approx.)

**Friday 27th July**  
(evening ride - starting at 6.00 p.m. - 15 miles approx.)

More dates to follow for the autumn / winter months.

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

**All rides start, in time-honoured tradition, from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell.**

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





## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

### April highlights...

Hello from St John's Elmswell! We hope you had a lovely Easter. On Easter Sunday we had a double celebration; not only did we rejoice in the fact that Jesus was not defeated by death and lives with us all everyday, our curate's youngest child, Divine, was baptised and welcomed into our church family. Such a lovely, joyful celebration!



### Looking into May...

The first weekend kicks off with the ever-popular Men's breakfast on Saturday 5th May. Who wouldn't love a full English with friendship and fellowship on the side? The next day, it's our excellent and energetic Family Church service at 9:30am.

We will be joining the global wave of prayer called "Thy Kingdom Come" 10th - 20th May 2018. Christians around the world are invited to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops' of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. We will be running several special events during this period, check out our website, facebook and notice sheets for more information.

### A new start for you in June...

If you would like to find out more about the best news ever, why not try come along to Christianity Explored. It's a relaxed and informal way of providing space and time to think about the big questions of life. In a small group, over seven sessions, you can find out more about the life of the person at the heart of the Christian faith, Jesus Christ. A new group will be starting in June and details will appear on our web site. Contact Peter, our Rector, if you'd like to learn more.

### 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 child christened, please get in touch! Revd Peter Goodridge, 01359 240512, [elmswellrector@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellrector@gmail.com), [www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk](http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk) ...and find us on facebook.

### Upcoming Services...

We offer a range of popular Sunday services. In May, there are some additional services inspired by the "Thy Kingdom Come" global wave of prayer. You can learn more about the different styles of worship we offer, the communion service times and the child-friendly activities on our website.

### Sunday 6th May

9:30 Family Church  
11:00 Traditional Church  
(BCP Morning Prayer plus Communion)

### Thursday 10th May

7:30pm Ascension Day Healing Service

### Sunday 13th May

10:30am Mission Sunday followed by bring and share lunch.

### Thursday 17th May (tbc)

7:30pm Prayer and Praise evening

### Sunday 20th May

9:30am Breakfast Church (breakfast from 9am)  
11:00am Traditional Church (Common Worship Communion)  
5:30pm Pentecost Celebration (Christians Together service) preceded by afternoon tea for all ages at 4:45pm

### Sunday 27th May

10:30am Holy Communion

### Sunday 3rd June

9:30am Family Church  
11:00am Traditional Church  
(BCP Communion)



## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 marked the end of the 24<sup>th</sup> year of floodlighting St. John's Tower, a year in which we raised £787. This brings the sum accumulated since we started to a magnificent £19,639. Over the years floodlighting the tower has become an integral part of village life. As well as raising funds for St. John's, it has become a very popular way of enhancing the profile of the church itself. As "taker of the money"

I would like to say, once again, a huge public THANK YOU to all those people who have sponsored the lights during 2017/18, and before. Your support is hugely appreciated. St. John's really does benefit from your generosity; and many parishioners have told me how much they enjoy seeing our beacon on the hill as they make their way home along the A14 late at night. Thank you all. As always, everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, which helps to pay 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, simply make a donation. For the summer

months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5. Cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELSWELL".

#### MAY 2018 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 in memory of John Ray.  
 1 in memory of Peter Worby, who passed away on this day 16 years ago. "Always in my thoughts, I will love you always". Jean. xx.  
 Also, loving memories of my brother, Ivan Wade, father of Lee and Mark, who passed away on this day, 2 years ago. Jean xx.  
 2 in memory of John Ray.  
 3 in memory of John Ray.  
 4 in memory of John Ray.  
 5 in memory of John Ray.  
 5 Jane Goodchild. Remembering you on your Birthday. Love Colin. XX.  
 6 in memory of John Ray.  
 7 in memory of John Ray.  
 7 in loving memory of Rose Emma Manning.  
 9 remembering Rachel Louise Finch on her Birthday.  
 14 remembering Percy Pleasance, a dear Dad, Grandad and Great-Grandad, on his Birthday.  
 21 Eileen Stiff. Remembering a dear Nana on her Birthday. "Miss you". Love, Louise & Brian. x.  
 21 Eileen Stiff. Thinking about you on your Birthday. Love, Monica, Phillip & family. x.  
 24 Happy Birthday Mum, 97 years young !! Lots of love as always from All the Rookard Clan. xxxxxxx.  
 25 treasured happy memories of Ted Rookard. Love from All his family. xxxxxxx.  
 26 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.  
 28 Dean Goodchild. Remembering you on your Birthday. Love Colin. XX.  
 30 in memory of Mark Jones. "Always in our thoughts". Mum & Dad.

**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](http://www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk)

*Father David Finegan*



## ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Every other month when it's my turn to offer these notes to the Newsletter I sit in front of my laptop and wonder what am I going to write about. I think about all that's happened in the last few days and one of the most significant things that I have seen on the news broadcasts has been the statement of Neville Lawrence the father of the murdered teenager Stephen Lawrence that on the 25th anniversary of his son's murder he had decided to publicly forgive those responsible his son's death.

Stephen Spurgeon used this event in his recent sermon to us which was on the subject of forgiveness when he reminded us that until we forgive we can't move on in life. A point made so sincerely by Neville Lawrence who still sought justice for his son but now wanted to move on having forgiven the young men who had killed his son.

Bearing grudges eats away at us and serves only to make us unhappy forgiveness lifts us out of that melancholy.

#### **Our activities for May are:-**

10th May at Midday Food & Friends lunch at the church contact Jackie on 01359245918 if you would like to join us for lunch.

14th May Our Ladies friendship meet at 7.45pm at the Fire Station for a tour and talk by the firemen husbands are welcome to join the ladies, contact Margaret on 01359241541 if you would like to join this group.

Our services in May which start at 10.30am will be led by:-

- 6th May Kevin Moore (Inc. Communion)  
 13th May Stephen Spurgeon (All Age Service)  
 20th May Stephen Spurgeon  
 20th May Christian Together in Elmswell Pentecost service at St Johns at 4.30.PM  
 27th May Carole Almond

As ever we extend an invitation to anyone wishing to join us in any of our activities and services and ensure you of a warm and friendly welcome.

For more information contact Tony on 01359 241541 or on [cockant2@btinternet.com](mailto:cockant2@btinternet.com) or see our website [www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk](http://www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk)



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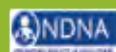
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# A reminder... Alcohol at Blackbourne

**Blackbourne is a licensed premises.**

The controls on the supply of alcohol are the same as a pub. Any and all alcohol supplied must be done through our Dedicated Premises Supervisor, Val Burch.

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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## CITIZENS ADVICE

### Universal Credit to be rolled out in Mid Suffolk

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk is helping people get ready for Universal Credit as it rolls out in full across Mid Suffolk.

Universal Credit is a new benefit which helps working age people on a low income or not in work meet their living costs. It replaces six means-tested benefits and tax credits with one benefit. Universal Credit replaces housing benefit, working tax credit, child tax credit, income support, income-based jobseeker's allowance and income-related employment and support allowance. However this doesn't mean that everyone of working age will be able to apply.

People who are already claiming any of the six benefits are likely to be moved onto Universal Credit from 2019 onwards and don't need to do anything until the Department of Work and Pensions gets in touch.

The charity is highlighting the differences in the ways that Universal Credit is paid:

- Universal Credit payments are made in arrears once a month, rather than being paid every fortnight or every week.
- Payments will go straight into a claimant's bank account. This means people may need to open a bank account if they don't have one and set up their own standing orders for expenses like rent if it was paid directly to their landlord under the old Housing Benefit system.

- New Universal Credit applications, and any change in your circumstances, need to be made online.

There is a built in five week wait for the first Universal Credit payment. Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk is encouraging people to apply for an advance payment if they're concerned about meeting their living costs in the meantime.

**Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk will be running drop in advice session at The Blackbourne Centre, Elmswell on 1st and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 between 09.30 & 12.30. Please drop in if you have any problems you would like help with- no appointment needed.**



## Mid Suffolk



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# AROUND & ABOUT

## COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Our Community Speedwatch volunteers make little fuss. They dutifully turn out in all weathers with the simple aim of making Elmswell's roads safer.

The recent anger and justifiable concern about too many new houses to be built in our village always has at its core the problems of all the extra cars on the roads. However clever the developers are, that can't squeeze too many more vehicles - private, trade and HGV - down New Road. Similarly, the School Road / Church Road junction, as the recent traffic light chaos confirms, can't take many more HGV's up Church Hill wanting to turn into School Rad which is choc-a-bloc with vehicles waiting to turn...including other HGV's. An extremely simple experiment was conducted many years ago involving a quart and a pint pot which is instructive in our case...

The CSW team figures show that over 12 months of last year, 590,705 vehicles entered our village. They have no figures for vehicles leaving but it stands to reason that approximately the same number left

They estimate, therefore, that 1,181,410 vehicles travelled through the village during a 12 month period..

Their Speed Indicator Device (SID) figures also show that out of the 590,705 figure 60.9% were exceeding 30 mph.

During 40 recent sessions, they have noted 13,754 passing vehicles (in both directions of which 140 were noted as over the limit and letters were sent. Over 1% of all traffic received, therefore, a Police warning letter with prosecution possible for repeat offenders.

The clear difference between the SID and CSW being at the side of the road is that CSW personnel wear Hi Vis clothing which clearly educates/reminds drivers of the 30 mph speed restriction, and it is this education aspect which is a significant factor in communities supporting CSW schemes in order to make their villages safer.

Clearly, if more members would come forward to join the CSW scheme they would be able to carry out a greater number of sessions thereby educating a greater number of drivers.

*If you would like to know more on how you can help, do ring Mo Coulling on 07774 695784*



## BUS PASSES

If you have a free bus pass, it will no longer be automatically renewed.

When it is going out-of-date, you have to be in touch with Suffolk County Council...

by telephone on

**0345 600 0659**

through the website

**Suffolkonboard.com**

or by email via

**suffolkenquiries@euclid.ltd.uk**

Application forms are available from the Library where they will also advise further on how to proceed.

*The Pass is free to those born on or before 5th April 1950 or, for a woman born after that date and entitled to a State pension..*

*The pass is valid:*

*Monday-Friday 9.30am - 11.30pm*

*all day on weekends and Bank holidays*



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## ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### Zoe Clark, our new Library Manager, gives her first impressions...

It's been a busy and lovely start for me at the library. There's been plenty to learn, and I'm getting the hang of most things – thank you to those who have been patient on the occasions where I've had to figure things out or phone a friend. I've only flooded the coffee machine once, so the important things are under control. I've had the opportunity to visit a few other libraries in Suffolk, and start to get to grips with some of the lesser known services we have to offer. I've also been quite impressed at just how hard our reserve shelf works!

At present we're working our way through clearing some stock to make way for several loads of new books which keep coming in. It feels a bit like Christmas opening up the crates of brand new books, and some folks with fortuitous timing have been able to grab a few volumes before they even hit the shelves.

School holidays have ensured the Children's area has seen lots of traffic, and its encouraging to see so many avid readers making the most of their library membership. It has been absolutely delightful to hear children reading to each other and recommending their favourites. I was lucky enough to be invited to read some jokes this week, which made a lovely intermission between sorting incoming stock and getting the shelves in order. During term time, just after 3pm is our busiest time of day.

Other highlights have included meeting with the Community Café group, (Alternate Wednesday

mornings at The Fox). It's a very warm and welcoming group, with a very vibrant energy about it. There seemed to be around 6 different conversations running at any given time! If anyone is new to the village and would like to make contact and establish some connections with the village, please get in touch. For that matter, if you're not that new, or even firmly established but fancy a pleasant cup of tea and a chat, make your way down and introduce yourself.

We've also had the launch of the Lego Club (Sundays from 11:00) which has been well received and attended. We've had to bump the furniture out further to make more space! We started with around 10 children, and a few parents squeezing in to get in on the Lego action as well. There were some tears, but only from my daughter - who wasn't particularly keen on sharing the Duplo cat. You can find photos or some of our creations on the Elmswell Library Friends facebook group. We will be getting more Lego in order to keep up with demand.

The Ancestry group has been a little quiet of late, and Julie would ask that people let her know if they plan to attend. This runs alternate Wednesday afternoons. You can find details on the Facebook group, but also on the main Elmswell Library webpage. Or of course you can check at the library in person.

Baby bounce continues to be a truly lovely sort of way to spend a Friday morning, surrounded

by some of the cutest residents of Elmswell, and doing my very best to sing the number songs without muddling my counting. Some of our songs are very clear favourites, and we know that most of our little ones would happily sing the 'Sleeping bunnies' song for the whole half hour. My sincere apologies to Paige for stopping after only three rounds. We do try and mix things up for sake of the grown ups sanity.

I also attended the ELF AGM, and had the opportunity to meet our dedicated fundraising and support team. With a greater emphasis on meeting people and having an enjoyable time than raising money, they have some exciting events coming up in June – with a Race Night on Friday the 8th of June, and a Wine and Food evening with an Australian and New Zealand theme on the 15th of June. Tickets for both are available from the library. There are other proposals for activities later in the year, so watch this space. The beautiful little postcards book continues to be popular – if you have an interest in local history and haven't collected a copy yet, do pop in and check it out. If anyone is interested in joining the ELF team, please let me know and I'll get you in touch with Jimmy.

It has been really lovely to meet so many people, and I have thoroughly enjoyed chatting with you. I know Emma always made everyone feel very welcome at the library and I can only hope to uphold her legacy of warmth and friendliness.

## WEST SUFFOLK SEWING BEE

This month's Sewing Bee saw some new faces, with some participants driving over an hour to join us! We had a smaller demonstration than last month, with a quick look at how to copy existing clothing without taking it apart – so when you find something you really love, you can replicate it without destroying the original.

One of our new members inserted a zip for the first time, and absolutely nailed it. She made a royal blue jewellery roll, and was understandably pleased with her efforts. We also had members working with English Paper piecing, a jersey cardigan, trousers (those pockets were tricky) and dance costumes for children with a particularly unco-operative gold jersey fabric. It's always risky letting people know you sew – who knows what assignments you will receive!

Next month we have a guest presenter – Judith Johnson from Sure-Fit Designs will be coming to introduce us to a fitting and drafting system with which you can create patterns to your exact measurements.

If you would like to join us, please contact Zoe on 07580 297 140, or join our Facebook group 'Sewing in the UK-Suffolk'.



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## PARTYING & PJ MASKS

The fastest growth in Wesley & Blackbourne lettings is in children's parties. No longer focussed on jelly and musical chairs, the venues are often turned into a pulsating lightshow...as here for a recent 13th birthday.



Meanwhile, one of the regular diddi dance sessions enjoyed a visit from Owlette, Gekko & Catboy from TV's PJ Masks. The weekly class at Blackbourne had taken part in a national charity fund raising drive on behalf of the Youth Sport Trust and their efforts in learning the superhero dance moves had earned them recognition from the trio.



To book Wesley or Blackbourne ring 244134 or email [clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)  
To find out more about diddi dance, call Nicola Box on 07832 913282, email [Nicola.box@diddidance.com](mailto:Nicola.box@diddidance.com)



## OUR COVER PICTURE SHOWS...



After much discussion and careful thought, the Parish Council has acted on the advice of the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association and taken the first step towards establishing another top-of-the-range community facility centred on the Wesley chapel on School Road. The small redundant Exchange Hall, once the village telephone exchange, has been demolished, leaving much needed parking space. Meanwhile, the floor and the wall panelling from the chapel itself have been stripped out on the advice of the specialists who were called in to treat the dry rot problem. This leaves the way clear for a new concrete slab with under floor heating, as at Blackbourne, which adds considerably to the comfort and convenience of users of what is intended to be a community hub supported by income from outside lettings as the Association has managed to achieve so well at the larger Blackbourne facility..



On holiday  
from Iron  
Curtain

## Broadcasting tomorrow

MEET the Elmswell Church **handbell ringers**, six school-boys, with their conductor, Mrs. E. D. Harborne, the wife of the Rector, who will broadcast tomorrow (Saturday) evening at 5.25 p.m. in the "First Attempts" series in the Home Service programme. They will play a medley, "Drink to me only", Londonderry Air, and "The Old Folks at home".—"Free Press" photo.

### ELMSWELL ON THE WIRELESS

In 1955, the Bury Free Press reports Elmswell in the media spotlight when the BBC Home Service broadcast 3 popular numbers from our very own hand bell ringers. They appeared as part of the regular 'First Attempts' features of young people performing in the Saturday Children's Hour programme at 5.00pm. Children's Hour was sandwiched between Tony Hancock, Desert island Discs and Cyril Fletcher's Holiday Playhouse in a day's programming which closed down after the 11.00pm News.

Our lads are shown with Mrs Harborne, wife of the Rector at the time. Mrs Harborne was an active member of Elmswell WI and played the organ at St John's. Her husband was severely disabled and in a wheelchair. He died in 1960, as marked by a plaque in the Church chancel, and his gravestone is near to the church door.

About this time the Rectory opposite the church was sold, but the photograph would appear to have been taken there.

St John's still has a set of hand bells, recently refurbished but not currently in use. If you can put a name to any of the lads in the photograph, or if you fancy taking up hand bell ringing, do let us know at the Newsletter.



Thanks to Stella Chamberlin, Jean Folkard, Janet Baker & Mo Dow.

### New homes being built in Elmswell?



Yes, we all know that there are lots of new homes going up all over the village, but these particular homes are very special ones, destined to help the wildlife at Lukeswood! Year 4 children from Elmswell Primary School came to Lukeswood at the end of April and spent a morning working very hard to make two special new habitats in our community woodland.

The first was a Minibeast Mansion – as you can see from our photo it is a splendid edifice, constructed from wooden pallets, bricks, pipes, broken flowerpots, twigs and logs. The aim is to create lots of different hidey-holes for a range of creatures to nest or hibernate in. Who will move in to our new mansion? Pebbles, bits of stone and brick are shady and damp, perfect for **toads**, **slow worms**, **frogs** and **newts**. Hollow canes are ideal for hibernating **ladybirds** and **lacewings**, while logs with holes may attract **bumblebees**, **honey bees** and other rare bees such as the **mason bee** and **leaf cutter bee**. Damp wood is perfect for **slugs**, **snails**, **centipedes** and **woodlice**. **Spiders** and **beetles** will hide away in dry pine cones. The crevices between dry twigs are good places for sheltering **butterflies** and **moths**. Small animals like the **shrew** and **field vole** may use the dry straw for nesting. It really is an incredible 5-star luxury wildlife residence!



Our second construction looks a bit more scruffy, but is no less important for wildlife. It's a beetle hotel. We're hoping that it may attract **stag beetles**, which need rotting wood to lay their eggs in and for the grubs to develop. Elmswell is right on the edge of the main stag beetle zone, which is situated mainly in the south east of the county, but the Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service has recorded stag beetles in nearby Tostock, so perhaps they will find their way to Lukeswood as well. The logs are placed vertically in a large hole so that most of the wood is in contact with the soil. This helps the wood to rot down providing the conditions that the beetles love. After three to five years developing underground as grubs, the adults emerge during May to mate, the males often fighting with their large horns (they may look intimidating, but they're completely harmless to us). It would be wonderful to see these impressive creatures in our wildlife site.

The children also helped to plant a new hedge along the black poplar enclosure, so it was a very busy morning!

### New wildlife events planned at Lukeswood

This year we have three exciting events all aimed at discovering more about and enjoying our local wildlife. Please see our advert panel for details. We're very lucky to have some local experts helping us, so all three should be interesting and enjoyable occasions. These events are FREE, but please book your place in advance so we know the numbers – email on [info@elmswild.org.uk](mailto:info@elmswild.org.uk) or ring on 241901. We look forward to seeing you for lots of wildlife discoveries!

Mary Feeney, [info@elmswild.org.uk](mailto:info@elmswild.org.uk)

## WHAT'S ON AT LUKESWOOD?

Join in one of our exciting wildlife events this year!



### Wildflower Walk:

Sunday 10 June, 2.00-4.00

Join us for a wander round Lukeswood to find and identify wildflowers.



### Butterfly Walk:

Saturday 21 July, 11.00-12.30

It's the beginning of the Big Butterfly Count and we will have an expert from Suffolk Butterfly Conservation to help us identify the butterflies at Lukeswood.



### Fungi Foray:

Saturday 13 October, 10.00-12.00

This is the time of year to explore colourful fungi and we will have the County Recorder with us to lead our walk round Lukeswood.

All events are FREE, but please book your place in advance – email [info@elmswild.org.uk](mailto:info@elmswild.org.uk) or ring 241901.

Children are very welcome to attend but must be accompanied by an adult.

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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](http://www.sozohomechurch.com)

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## BOWLING IN ELMSWELL

The 14th April saw the Elmswell Fox Bowls Club (EFox) swing into action with a thoroughly enjoyable friendly match against Old Newton Bowls Club. The green looked wonderful, thanks to the hard work put in by a number of club members. The ages of the players ranged from about ten to eighty-ish, and everyone who wanted had the opportunity to bowl at least a few ends. This included people who had never bowled before. Great fun was had by all, and, although EFox lost, it was not by a huge margin and means there is every reason for a return match in the not-too-distant future. Afterwards, everyone went to the Fox, where Jimmy and his crew had laid on a very generous and tasty spread.

On 19th April the serious stuff began with an away match against St Botolph's in Botesdale. On quite a challenging green — recent rainfall meant it was hard going — it was a close-run game, but EFox won by 68 to 64. A pleasing beginning for a new club.

Roll-ups (friendly practice sessions) are usually every Tuesday and Saturday, starting at 2pm from now until the autumn. It costs only £2.50 per person, and anyone is welcome to come and try their hand at bowls, or renew their acquaintance with the green. It really is quite addictive! Informal clothes are fine for roll-ups; we do, however, ask that people wear flat shoes — we do have a few pairs of bowling shoes to borrow if necessary.

We hope to see you at the Blackbourne soon.

**To find out more about the game of bowls in Elmswell, or just to give it a try, ring Dick Burch on 240105 – email Ann Richards, the Club Secretary, [ann.richards47@gmail.com](mailto:ann.richards47@gmail.com)**



*Mark takes care.*



*Ann, Rob and Ray discuss tactics*



*Changing ends away at Botesdale...we won!*



## ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

### Season begins

Our first game of the season was away at Old Newton in unseasonably hot weather with many players putting on sun cream rather than the usual three jumpers. Although the result didn't go our way it was a close game with some good performances for so early in the season.

### Result

Elmswell 197 for 9  
Old Newton 200 for 3  
Old Newton won by 7 wickets

### Fixtures

**April**  
29 Nacton (H)

### May

6 Acton (A)  
13 Easton (H)  
16 Mid Suffolk (H)  
23 Brettenham (A)  
27 Walsham Le Willows (A)

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# ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL APRIL MEETING 2018

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday monthly, excepting August. The April meeting took place on 16<sup>th</sup> at The Blackbourne with 9 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Members Mrs Sarah Mansel & John Levantis and 5 members of the public.

This report is compiled from the meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises the Council Chairman, Cllr Fred Pallett, the Council Vice-chairman, Cllr Shaun Pratt and Cllr Mike Friend, nominated by his peers to join them. It seeks to cover some of the more interesting or significant items thought to deserve wider public attention. Included, where appropriate, are matters reported to the meetings by external bodies such as Ward Members or as raised at the meeting by members of the public. Further background and reference to subsequent events are included where relevant.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line at [www.elmswell.onesuffolk.net](http://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 March Meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

## District Council

Cllr Mrs Sarah Mansel tabled a written report which included confirmation that public consultation sessions regarding the re-development of the former council office site in Needham Market are open to all. There are two options – one is all residential and the second also includes a retail store. Alongside these proposals there are also proposals to build affordable homes on the former Needham Market Middle School site (which is now in the ownership of MSDC). Formal planning applications are yet to be made.

## BWMA

The Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association manages these major community resources on Council's behalf. Secretary Peter Edmonds reported that

the electricity to the Exchange Hall has been disconnected and water disconnection is imminent after which demolition of this small, little-used hall can take place allowing more space for parking. The pews that were for sale have all been purchased and netted £601.01. The pulpit and altar rail are proving difficult to fit into any refurbishment plan and are to be offered for sale also. It was suggested that the Museum of East Anglian Life might be interested in them should they not find a buyer. A document was tabled which summarises all of the previously suggested elements of refurbishment of the chapel as a schedule of needs and aspirations to help begin the design process with architects. Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified and experienced architects are invited via the Press, on line and by personal contact. Responses and progress will be reported to the next meeting.

Meanwhile, the matter of the Jubilee roof repair has moved beyond the technical assessment stage and is again with the loss adjuster towards a decision from the insurance company as to liability and the Agreement with the Elmswell Fox Bowls Club for maintenance and use of the Blackbourne bowls facilities until 31<sup>st</sup> December has been agreed and signed.

Treasurer, Nick Brooks, announced a turnover of £43,224.45 for the Blackbourne and £5, 649.50 for the Wesley for the

financial year 2017-2018. The Wesley figure, he pointed out, covered only nine months and he looked forward to topping £50K in total next year. The Chairman suggested that the growing popularity of the venues suggested the possibility of raising fees for external hirers. The Wesley will undoubtedly suffer a degree of disruption from the proposed re-development but inconvenience to hirers will be monitored by the Committee and kept to a minimum.

## County Council

Cllr Jane Storey tabled a written report on the problem of potholed roads, confirming that the Council has put in place the following measures with immediate effect to help cope with the demand:

- Deploying additional gangs to undertake pothole and road repairs across the county.
- Switching to a different temporary material to repair emergency potholes which, although slightly more expensive, provides a longer-lasting repair in damp conditions.
- Considering for large areas of intervention-level pothole defects whether 'making safe' (through organising traffic management and temporary road closures) is required in advance of making extensive repairs.
- Bringing in extra resource to undertake larger-scale patching works as part of a planned programme for dealing with sites on which traffic management or road closures have been arranged or areas where small-scale repairs will not sufficiently address the road deterioration.
- Moving internal resources from other teams to support the inspection of customer reports, particularly from staff with previous experience of dealing with customer reports and inspections.

This extra push to repair the high volume of potholes in the county is being assisted by the extra £21 million funding which has been borrowed to resurface a quarter of all roads managed by Suffolk Highways, by 2021.

The Report also confirmed that Suffolk Waste Partnership have been awarded £10,000 from the Government's Litter Innovation Fund

to run innovative local projects aimed at reducing litter. Suffolk Waste Partnership's member authorities are responsible for clearing litter from public land and highways, with the cost of removing litter from Suffolk's major A-roads the A14, A12 and A11 standing at £300,000 per year. The Suffolk Waste Partnership's project will:

- Work with businesses such as drive-throughs, service stations, garages and logistics firms to seek their support in promoting responsible attitudes to litter disposal.
- Trial new style litter bins at key layby locations and improve labelling and signage of litter bins along the A11, A12 and A14 in Suffolk.
- Trial new remote monitoring technology to help councils coordinate litter bin emptying more efficiently and effectively.
- Ensure that any person taken to court and convicted for a littering offence anywhere in Suffolk is named and shamed publicly.
- Run an awareness campaign to remind residents and visitors alike about the issues and the consequences of littering.
- Educate residents and businesses about how to prevent their waste inadvertently escaping their control and ending up as litter.

## Planning results

The Meeting noted the following Approvals from Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority:

### DC/18/00436

Application for listed Building Consent – renovation of bedroom....Street Farm, Station Road APPROVED - EPC supported

### 4911/16

Outline Planning permission for the development of up to 240 dwellings...Land adjacent to Wetherden Road APPROVED EPC objected

## Planning Applications

Council supported the following Planning applications notified for comment by Mid Suffolk:

**DC/18/01301** Application for Listed Building Consent. Replacement of modern



style window with stained glass privacy window, repair/reinstatement of period features to 2 No. windows, finishing of doorway and exterior painting at Street Farm, Station Road

**DC/18/01137** Erection of two storey and single storey side extension, first floor rear extension and creation of a new gable. Hilltop Cottage, Church Road

**DC/18/01382** Application for Listed Building Consent. Severance of existing barn to form 2 No. dwellings, minor works to building exterior.

Dagwood Farm, Ashfield Road

**DC/18/01279** (1) Erection of 2 warehouses, 2 offices, creation of car parking and storage yards, landscaping, sustainable urban drainage system, infrastructure and highway improvements. (2) Outline Planning Application (Access and Landscaping to be considered) for erection of an office and associated car parking and storage yard. All on land at Lawn Farm, Warren Lane, Woolpit. Council objected to this application for the following reasons:

A major imposition in the countryside such as is proposed and anticipated here cannot be determined without a strategic overview encompassing the many aspects of infrastructure, residential amenity, countryside, wildlife and landscape issues which will be inevitably affected. Such a determination is beyond the process at this level of consideration.

The approaches recently made in principal regarding proposals for a major development at Haughley Park must be assessed in parallel with this application, with particular regard for the highway network and, specifically, routing from A14.

The core planning principle at NPPF paragraph 17 requires that Planning should be plan-led with the aim of empowering local people to shape their surroundings by objectively identifying business needs against tests of area roles and character. This principle is ignored should the Application succeed.

The proposals are, furthermore, in clear contradiction of Local Plan policy E10 which states that industrial and commercial development in the countryside will not be permitted unless an overriding need can be demonstrated and set against the impacts, including traffic generation. Such need and the broad infrastructure implications cannot properly be evaluated without a deep and comprehensive examination of the area and of the other extant proposals for development in the immediate area of the application site.

**Planning Appeal**

The appeal against Mid Suffolk's decision, ref DC/17/03532, to refuse Planning Permission for a 3 bedroom chalet bungalow at Crimond, Oak Lane, was dismissed on the grounds that the adverse impacts it would present would render it an unsustainable development within the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework.

**Lawn Farm Quarry**

The Meeting noted the drop-in consultations sessions scheduled to air the proposals which result from the previous consultation and subsequent feedback on the Preferred Options Draft of the SCC Minerals & Waste Local Plan. The proposals retain the expansion of the Lawn Farm Quarry site against the detailed objections from Elmswell Parish Council, from Wetherden Parish Council and from residents. It is anticipated that one of the consultation sessions will be at Blackbourne between 11<sup>th</sup> June and 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

**Community Speed Watch**

When Council co-operated with the village's Community Speed Watch (CSW) team in setting up the 'SID' speed indicator and recording device, it was agreed that funding would be available to support the regular servicing of the equipment and the incidental expenses of re-siting it every 3 weeks. The Meeting agreed that the CSW volunteers be thanked for their regular and efficient management of the Speed Indicator Device alongside their dedication to the operation of the hand held roadside speed monitoring device for the 2 years since December 2015 and that the sum of £300.00 be granted to the Group's funds.

**Blackbourne caretaker pay**

Blackbourne is now much busier than when the current caretaker contract was devised. There are now frequent split-shift and weekend working requirements. Accordingly, it was agreed that the rate of pay for the Blackbourne Caretaker be adjusted to incorporate the original uplift of the Sunday working premium into the standard hourly rate producing a new rate of £8.09p /hr and, further, that the rate of pay of non-clerical Council staff be increase in line with the NJC statutory increases for hourly paid clerical staff.

**Relief Road funding**

It is clear that funding for the aspirational Relief Road to take traffic over the railway and to A14 avoiding the ever-busier railway crossing must come from various sources. Every new house built in the District requires payment of a 'Community Infrastructure Levy', the majority of which goes to Mid Suffolk. Mid Suffolk have to have a defined list of the sort of projects on which this money can be spent. Currently this does not cover road building. The Meeting agreed that formal application be made to for the amendment of their Community Infrastructure Levy Infrastructure List to allow for contributions towards the provision of improvements to highways infrastructure in the hope that this would include the Elmswell Relief Road.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is the Council's Annual Meeting when annual reports are received, various procedural documents noted and certain post-holders appointed. This will take place on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May at the earlier than usual time of 7.00pm 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](http://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.



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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](http://www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk) - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

## 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\*
- 10 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 10 St John's Ascension Day Healing Evening Service
- 11 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 13 St John's bring and share lunch after OMF Sunday
- 14 Ladies Friendship Group visit to Fire Station hosted by Brian Hawes 7.45pm
- 15 Exchange Club outing
- 15 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: The 12 month garden - Year Round Colour
- 16 St John's praise evening
- 17 Over 55's Club Entertainment by Jackie Raven
- 18 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 20 Christians Together in Elmswell Family Pentecost Service at St John's - 4:30pm
- 25 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 31 Over 55's Club Bingo

## June 2018

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 4 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church, Children with needs in Burma with Phil Bevan
- 6 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Linda Shorbolt - Tales Of Baby Feeding With Vintage Treasures
- 8 ELF Horse racing at The Maypole Inn, Wetherden commencing 7:00pm. Tickets will be available from the Library.
- 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\*
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 Over 55's Club Return of Gwyn Pritchard
- 15 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 15 ELF wine tasting of Australia and New Zealand wines with local wine expert Bob Stopp. Tickets £12.50 each available from the Library.
- 16 St John's summer fair
- 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
- 30 St John's summer BBQ

## 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
- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 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
- 26 Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper /Bingo
- 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

## August 2018

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Members Meeting - To be Confirmed
- 9 Over 55's Club Malcolm Steward entertains
- 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
- 23 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 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

- 3 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church, Sailing around the world with Bridget Reavie at 7.45pm
- 5 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Linda Sexton - Miss Grimwade And The Girls Of Hope House
- 6 Over 55's Club Old Codgers Entertain
- 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
- 13 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell History Group meeting Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Mark Mitchels: "Edward Fitzgerald & The Woodbridge Wits". \*Annual SUBS due\*
- 14 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 15 St John's quiz night
- 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
- 23 St John's Harvest Festival
- 28 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

## October 2018

- 1 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church, Fishermen's Mission with Andy Malcolm
- 3 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Chris Parfitt An Illustrated Visit to The Isle Of Skye (Highland Games Included)
- 4 Over 55's club Felixstowe "The Hut"
- 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
- 11 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Mervyn Russen: "The First Railway to Ipswich & Beyond" \*December tickets on sale\*
- 12 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 16 Gardening Club 7.30pm. Blackbourne Talk: Therapeutic and Healing Gardens
- 16 Exchange Club To be arranged plus raffle
- 18 Over 55's club Stowmarket Concert Band OPEN EVENING
- 19 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27/28 Elmswell Art Club exhibition and sale of art by local artists. Admission free.

## November 2018

- 1 Over 55's club "Hot Dogs" with entertainment by Ian Vickery
- 5 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church, speaker TBC 7.45pm
- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I. Graham Higgins The Real Robin Hood
- 8 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Kelvin Dakin: "The History of local company, FISONS" \*December tickets on sale\*
- 9 St. John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am

**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](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)**

# A VILLAGE INDEX



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

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

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

May June July Sept Oct  
21st 18th 16th 17th 15th

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

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



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