



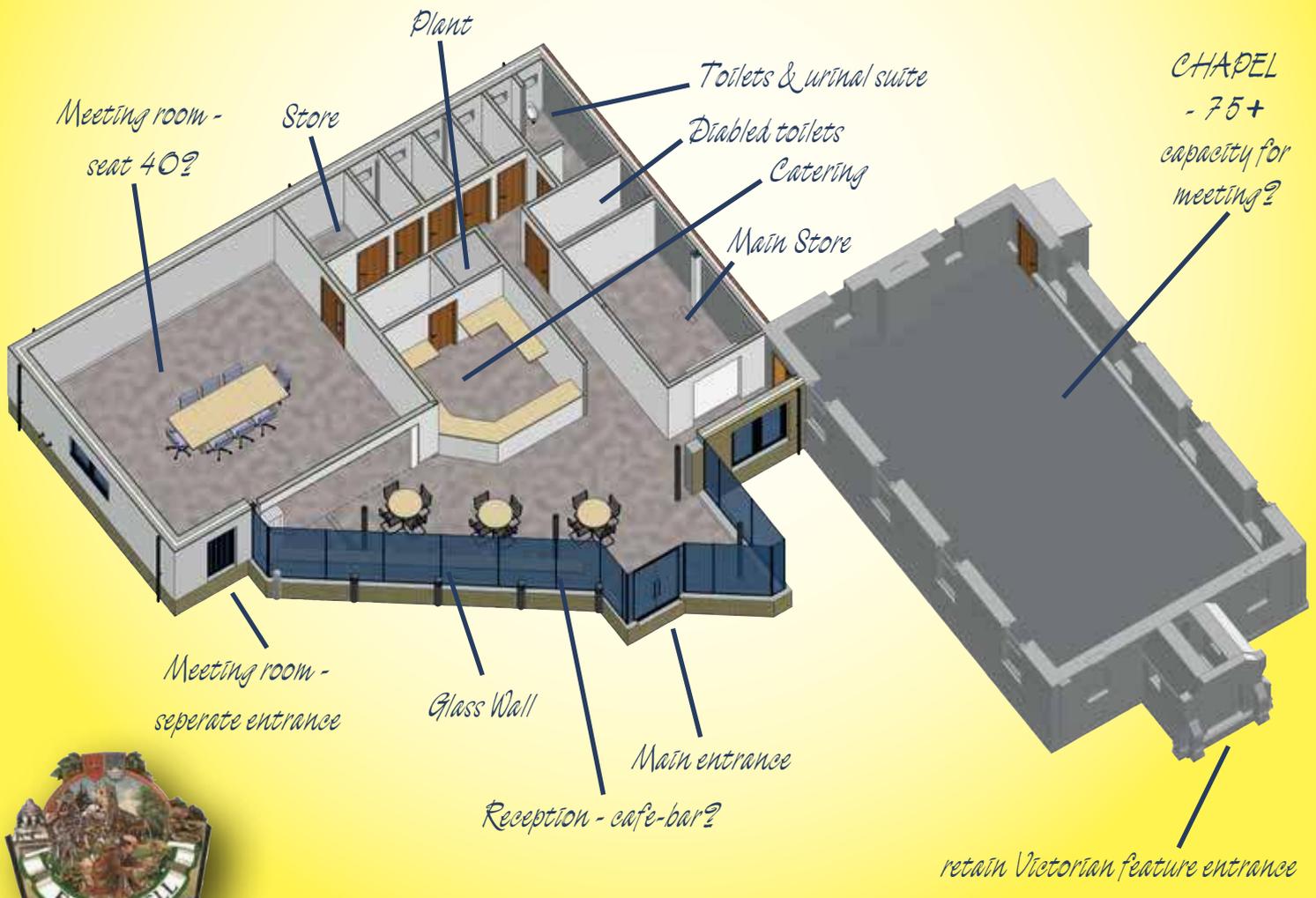
The Elmswell Newsletter



More than thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

March 2019

Taking the roof off the Wesley project...



see pages 13 - 16

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; ea.elmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.



Your opportunity, Dear Reader, to look both ways at once, in this edition. Our illustration by way of a simple serving suggestion as to how this might be done.

Look backwards via our feature, pages 21 & 22, triggered by the 30th anniversary of our very fruitful relationship with KDS Printers, now rather more On Trend as, 'Printing for Pleasure?...a name conjuring a therapy worthy of that nice Mrs Paltrow. With their help, and on behalf of the many hundreds of volunteer contributors, distributors and others who helped build a successful community enterprise over these years, we claim to have offered a comprehensive and accurate chronicle of Elmswell over 3 decades and a bit more. 3 decades of growth and change. Of a new school and a new library. Of a new playing field and of Blackbourne. Of a bigger better Co-op, an ever-open Mace Shop and a less often open Post Office. Of ever more houses and ever more traffic on roads that just can't get bigger or better, just busier and more hazardous. All this and more for our readers who are also, in the main, our writers.

And look forwards through the glass frontage of the Wesley proposals on our centre pages. For here are the next 30 years, and far beyond, in the making. This month in 2013 our Editorial responded to the problems of retaining a library service in Elmswell by suggesting that the Wesley site could, in the right hands, provide, 'a multi-purpose people-friendly space...original features retained...eco-friendly warmth...modern facilities and much more parking'.

Same month, 2 years on, the Wesley was up for sale offering, 'A fine Victorian chapel building well suited to conversion into a single dwelling with ample scope for the addition of up to 4 other dwellings'. No doubt that, should this have been the way forward, we would by now have had a development of 5 much-needed new houses, almost certainly called, 'Many Mansions'.

Our March 2015 Editorial, however, highlighted the community fight-back. The hall user

groups, the Parish Council and the Amenities Association determined that, 'the site must be saved for community use in perpetuity'. Alan Wilkinson, then of WPP Architects, was asked to draw up a simple scheme that could form the basis of presentations to Planners, funding bodies and others. It accepted that the current arrangement was unsustainable given that the Methodist Church had, effectively, been underwriting the users in premises that were very expensive to heat, would be very costly to adapt to modern standards and expectations and that the parking was impractically restrictive.

The first concept in 2015



The Editorial suggested that, 'There is no time for petty squabbling or puerile observations based on personal agendas'. Some time, inevitably, was wasted in foot-stamping until all the toys were out of the pram and the serious work could begin. But begin it did, and with considerable gusto. In short order the redundant Exchange Hall was demolished, liberating some more parking spaces, and some serious work went into assessing the needs and objectives and turning them into reality.

Of course, we don't have a completed Wesley project. But we do have Planning Permission for a professionally costed scheme and there seems

to be a realistic expectation that the timeline which has been adhered to so far and which sets the date for the signing of a Contract with a builder as 1st May might well be achieved.

We have been fortunate to have in place some key community champions with the skills, experience and energy to make this happen. Our 30 years of village record confirm that this has not always been the case. A milestone is reached every 4 years when local elections happen – see page 25 for an update – and it took some months for the dust to settle last time, in 2015, before we could enjoy the benefit of the

committed membership that has so ably supported Wesley and other positive initiatives since.

The next 30 years will see Elmswell change more dramatically and more fundamentally than at any time since the railway arrived in the 1840's. The siren voice raised repeatedly in recent years when confronted with the

pressure of development – "WE CAN JUST SAY, 'NO'" – is proved lamentably wrong. As in Thurston, and Woolpit and... well, the communities within reach of A14 and beyond...we look set to be sold off to developers and vague hopes or promises of infrastructure to follow will ring pathetically hollow.

Potential community champions can take heart from Lukeswood, our Library & Memorial Garden, Kiln Meadow, Blackbourne and soon Wesley to see what we can achieve for ourselves.

Fingers crossed for the next 30 years.

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: March 19th, April 23rd, May 28th, June 25th, July 23rd, August 27th

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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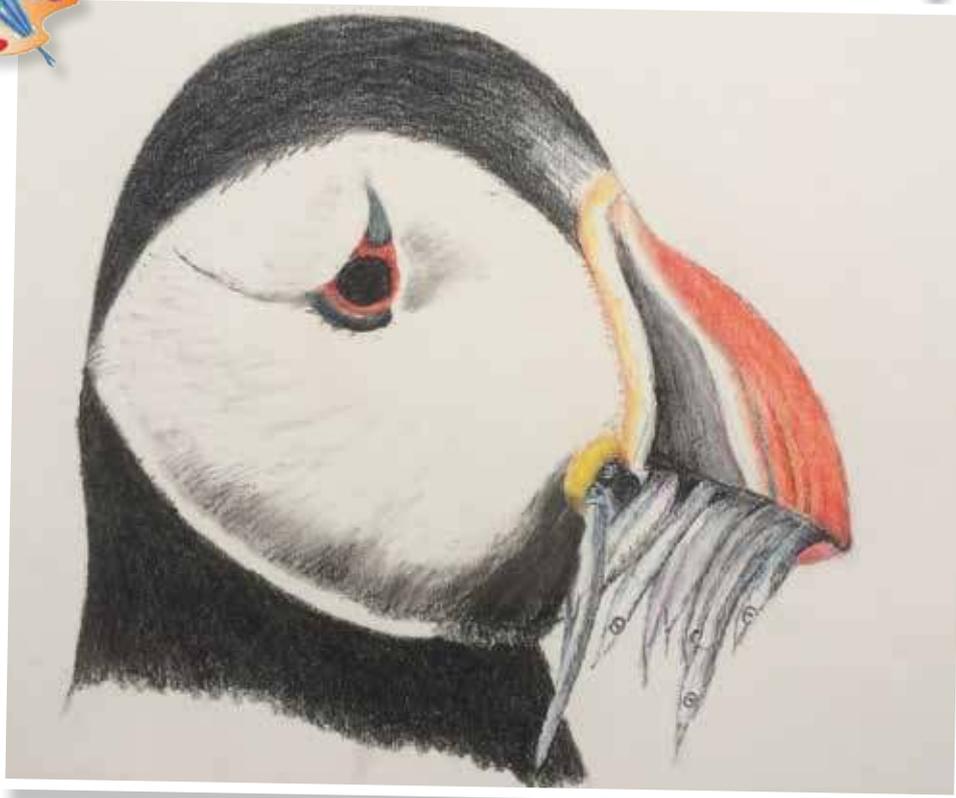


CLUBS & SOCIETIES



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

At nursery or primary school kiddies were given poster paints to encourage them to paint and draw. The results were pretty basic and many absolutely hilarious but they were an expression of how youngsters saw the world around them. Parents were very proud of these efforts and the results were often displayed on fridges, kitchen doors, bedrooms and elsewhere. Grandparents had to be shown these wonderful drawings in order to elicit more praise - or sometimes embarrassment! My sister was a primary schoolteacher and one day she combined religious study with art for her class of first year pupils. One little laddie drew a picture of an aeroplane with, "Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the man in the front is Pontius, the pilot." After primary school art instruction expanded to include other media but art (and music) became a periphery subject as time went on. Those who found inspiration in the creative subjects were of course in the main encouraged to express themselves and many went on to art school. After school many carried on painting at home and used art as a means of relaxation and enjoyment. Many stopped entirely and only started again once children had grown



up and flown the nest. Our members fall into both categories whilst some have never painted at all. We each have a preferred medium but will occasionally try something else. For my part I have consistently stuck to watercolour and have resisted suggestions to try something else. Eventually, seeing the work of others using different media, I was persuaded to try something different. The puffins shown are the result. They were done in pastel pencils.

John Welford 01359 240166

John Welford 01359 240166

EVERY CHILD IS AN ARTIST
Pablo Picasso

Art club meets Tuesday mornings at the Wesley



ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

Our first meeting of 2019 was held on Thursday February 21st at the Blackbourne when we welcomed "TIMES PAST"

for an evenings entertainment which was enjoyed by those present.

Just a reminder to any members not present at this meeting and you intend to come to the Fish & Chip Supper on

Thursday March 7th you will need to contact Diann (241002) or Herbert (240889) to place

your order as soon as you read our report.

Our meeting on Thursday March 21st is our AGM when it is time for the members to have their say and to elect a new committee,

So please attend this meeting which will continue with music by Mike Reed who will be joined by Wendy.

The trip to the Spa at Felixstowe on Thursday April 4th is sold out so please ensure you pay by March 21st.

We have managed to get a block of tickets for this years Thursford Xmas Spectacular on Monday November 25th at 2pm,

Diann is now taking names so book early as when they are gone it is unlikely that we will be able to get further tickets.

Grant (240943)



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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

At our meeting on 14th February 2019 we welcomed Sarah Doig whose subject was 'The Story of East Anglian Almshouses'. Sarah considers herself a 'Suffolk Girl' and after a career in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has returned to her roots and works as a freelance local history researcher.

In the 1100's the need was seen for charity donations to support the poor and to relieve need and distress with the building of Almshouses, some of which were refuges for travellers and care of the sick, such as the Leper Chapel in Cambridge, which was established in 1125.

In Bury St Edmunds there were six hospitals on the main routes into the town, for example St Nicholas' in Hollow Road, part of which still stands today – the traceried window at the road junction was moved from St Petronilla's in Southgate Street. The ruins of St Saviour's stand

in Fornham Road, where they abut the edge of Tesco's Car Park. In 1184 there were '12 priests to care for the sick and infirm'. In Norwich, St Giles Almshouse was built in 1249, for aged priests and 13 paupers. Not all of the Almshouses were provided by religious organisations, for example in Saffron Walden, King Edward VI's Almshouses.

After the Reformation many private benefactors provided Almshouses for the needy, in relief of 'need and distress'. The Quakers also provided Almshouses, as at Bury St Edmunds, near the Society of Friends buildings in St John's Street. Trinity Hospital in Long Melford, built in 1573 for 12 respectable men. Ipswich has buildings which originally dated from 16th Century, Tooley's Almshouses (1550) and Smart's Almshouses (1598) and were completely rebuilt in mock Elizabethan style in 1846. In Great Yarmouth the Corporation built Almshouses for 'decayed fishermen'.

In Elmswell (1618) and Stowlangtoft (1600) the Almshouses are similar in construction but there is no actual common design for the buildings. Sir Robert Gardener set out the rules and regulations for Elmswell, where there were rooms for 6 ladies; they were given an amount of wood for the fire and were expected to attend Church regularly.

The National Almshouse Association looks after the interests of 2,600 Almshouses in the UK, which amounts to 30,000 dwellings for 36,000 people.

The next meeting of the History group will be in the Wesley Hall on Thursday 14th March when Miriam Stead will speak about 'Tea for the British, with a little twist of Suffolk'.

New members are welcome to our meetings on the second Thursday of every month at the Wesley Hall at 7.30pm. More information from Stella on 01359-242601 or from our website: www.elmswell-history.org.uk.

ELMSWELL W.I.

After Val had welcomed everyone to the meeting, she introduced us to Zoe Noble and her colleague, two physiotherapists, who had come to talk to us about female health and well-being.

Zoe proceeded to tell us about the large expanse of muscle in the pelvis, which is called the pelvic floor. Although men have it too, women experience more physical problems from it in later life. The pelvic floor is a springy muscle, which supports our organs and helps to counteract differences in pressure. For example, it contracts when we cough or sneeze, to prevent us urinating. If this muscle is weakened, it cannot work properly and this can result in incontinence. There are between three to six million women in the U.K. who suffer from this – the exact number is not known, because of the embarrassment caused by discussing

this problem. It is therefore important to raise awareness so that women will feel more able to get help and not suffer in silence.

Pregnancy and childbirth, when muscles are stretched and weakened, are the main causes of pelvic floor problems. Also, being overweight, heavy lifting, chronic coughing and abdominal or pelvic surgery may result in weakness. 50% of women will have some pelvic floor incontinence and some will have uterine prolapse. It is therefore vital to keep these pelvic floor muscles working properly and it is possible to strengthen them by doing regular exercises, each day.

Zoe explained some of the exercises and we all tried them out! There were different exercises to tone different muscles and if these are done regularly, there should be a big improvement in the function of the pelvic floor. If not, there are

other methods to be explored.

Weakness in the pelvic floor increases with age. Every ten years, we lose about 8% of our muscle strength and so it is important to exercise regularly, to counteract this. Walking is one of the best ways to keep fit but there is also Tai Chi, dancing, aerobics, Pilates, Zumba etc. Keeping active also helps to keep you mentally alert and prevent dementia.

Zoe's talk was very informative and her valuable advice will help to keep us fit and active.

Next month, Yum Yum Tree Fudge is coming with lots of sweet treats and this will be an open meeting, so bring your friends to enjoy the evening!

Rosie Collins 01359 241652



ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

On Tuesday 19th February, Elmswell Gardening Club opened the doors to its first meeting of the new year. The room was ready to welcome members new and old well in time for a prompt start at 7.30pm. How pleased we were to see so many people, that every chair available in the hall was used. A great start to the year.

Helen Ackroyd, our guest speaker gave a short historical update of Anglesey Abbey, founded by Henry I in 1135, as the Hospital of St Mary. In the early 13th Century it was converted into a priory of Augustin Canons. The monastic way of life ended abruptly in 1536, destroyed by Henry the VIII as he began to dissolve the monasteries. Fast forward to 1926 when the estate was bought by the Lord Fairhaven and the building we know today re-designed into the beautiful mansion set in stunning grounds. For us, as gardeners the knowledge that Lord Fairhaven was a fanatical collector of antiquities as well as rare and unusual plants made us realise how special his garden was. No washing of any sort was hung out to dry. The

view of the garden had to be free from all such 'ordinary things', ensuring that from wherever one looked the grounds could be fully appreciated. A visit to the garden is a must if you want to experience an iconic country estate managed by gardeners who continue to show the best of each season.

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 19th March at 7.30pm** when **Nigel Start** will help us to understand the mysterious world of **Fruit Tree Pruning**. Nigel visited Elmswell garden Club in 2017 and shared his expertise on how to make the best of a vegetable plot to ensure self-sufficiency, even in the smallest of gardens. It is sure to be an interesting and informative evening, so do come with your questions and queries for Nigel to help you understand the mechanics of pruning. We look forward to welcoming you.

If you require further information about Elmswell Gardening Club, please contact **Nick**, on **01359 242601** or email elmswell-gardenclub@aol.com



There are four main types of pruning: formative (or routine), renewal and renovation (or rejuvenation). The type of pruning you decide to do will depend on what you want to achieve, the type of plant you are pruning, and the plant's development. As a rule, younger plants need more pruning to create a good framework of benches and stems.

*Quote taken from -
How to Garden written by Alan Titchmarsh 2010*

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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL EXCHANGE (Afternoon) W.I.

February was our first meeting since Christmas and was well attended. We were expecting an officer from The Rural Crime Team but they were unable to make it due to a Training Day. Norma Howell stepped in and gave us a most interesting laptop presentation all about **Medical Detection Dogs**.



Bio Detection Dogs

We carry out ground breaking research to improve early diagnosis of cancer and other diseases.

A much more wide ranging and fascinating story than we could ever have imagined. The dogs can be any breed and take four months to train. They come in two categories: **Bio Detection Dogs and Medical Alert Dogs**. The Bio Dogs are taught to pick up different scents. Amazingly, different conditions have different scents that can be detected in either breathe, urine, on skin and in the case of malaria on socks !! Their work includes various cancers, and diseases such as Parkinson's, malaria, bacterial diseases and animal cancers. After training they are taken by their foster carers each weekday to a laboratory and use their noses to pick out the suspect samples - **see the picture**. They work from 9.00 am to 4 pm and are then collected and taken home. The Medical Alert Dogs work in a similar way but are put with vulnerable people to help them. They respond

to early changes in body odours and alert the person to the danger. This very often prevents para medic call outs and hospitalisation. The future looks very promising. The scientists are hoping to develop an "electronic sniffer" which will replicate the dogs scent detection. This could mean early disease detection for cancers and other conditions. Scientists in a Yorkshire University are already working with the possibility of use for colorectal cancers. "Don't ask about that one !

What a fascinating afternoon and Norma Howell is thoroughly recommended as a speaker. All her fee goes to the Medical Detection Dogs charity and the ladies added to this with contributions of over £30 in her collection tin.

Our competition was a pencil drawing of a policeman, mainly because we were originally expecting to see one. Not a serious project. However, Norma judged this for us with good humour and first was Dot Dixon, second Lesley Clarke and third Barbara Yeates. There were lots of entries and they gave us a lot of fun.

Next month we welcome Joy Bounds, who is an Ipswich based author. She will be talking about her book "A Song of Their Own" which **tells the stories of our Suffolk Suffragettes and Suffragists**. We even had some of our own in Woolpit and Wetherden.

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

EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

At our first meeting in 2019 we held a Beetle Drive, kindly led by Derek Folkard, followed by tea and a raffle.

Mr Parfitt, a regular speaker at the Club, comes in March.

New members are welcome. Contact Carol Blissett (chair) on 241884.

Date for next meeting 19th March.

ELMSWELL SPORT

ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB

New Season

Are you interested in being part of a friendly, well run club? We are always on the look out for new players. Perhaps you have not played for a few years but want to get back into the game. Then Elmswell Cricket Club is the place for you. We can offer competitive matches played in a friendly atmosphere as well as weekly net sessions.

If you are interested then please get in touch using one of the methods below.

2019 Fixtures

All our fixtures for 2019 are now available on our website at www.elmswellcricketclub.co.uk.

Our first fixture is:

Sunday 28th April • Shotley Peninsula (H) • 1:30pm

Contact Us

Email: elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com • Web: www.elmswellcricketclub.co.uk

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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell!

I may be overly focused on the idea, but I love learning about people through what they read. If you've ever visited someone and taken a moment to check out the books on the shelves, you'll know what I mean. You learn about their interests, their favourite authors, and what you have in common. Books add warmth to homes even more than photos and cushions.

This month, as I was unpacking the incoming requests, I came across a very special one. I put it to the side, just quietly, to have a little look at again when I had a moment. There are lots of books that I would *like* to read, but then there are some that I think I *need* to read, and this one fell into the latter category. I wouldn't go so far as saying it made my fingers tingle when I held it, or anything quite like that, but it was close.

This of course raised a bit of a dilemma for me. I could put a request on it, so that it would be *all mine* when the current borrower had finished their three weeks. But it didn't seem fair to rush anyone through this very special book, if they needed a bit longer. So I put it to the side until I had sorted the rest, had a little look, and made a note of the details for later.

Then I finally scanned it into the system. At which point I laughed out loud (I really did), and put it aside to take home with me.

It was my husband's reservation.

So that's my Valentine's story. You know your tribe by your booklists.

I hope to see you soon – and I hope that you can find a book you love too. Or an Audiobook for your commute. Or perhaps a DVD. And if you're stuck for ideas, ask a friend or relative with good taste for a recommendation.

Zoe Tel: 01359 240974

What's On

The Keep in Touch Community Café

This group is for new residents to meet people in the village. Find them at the Fox pub at 10:30am – Wednesday 20th March, Wednesday 17th April.

Baby Bounce / Tot Rock (Fridays 9:45, term time)

Singing for little ones, with their Mums, Dads or Grandparents, loads of adorableness and songs about frogs and bunnies. No need to book, just show up.

Lego Club (11:00 – 12:00 on Sundays)

Come along and build with other children! We have Duplo for the little ones too.

Knit and Natter

Once a month on a Wednesday morning. 10am – 12am on the 13th March, 10th April

Ancestry / Family History Group

3pm – 5pm alternate Thursday afternoons in term time. Check with library for dates and to make a booking.

Books for Sale

We have received some fabulous donations from the Elmswell community so don't forget to check our sales rack out the front when you pass by.

ELF Volunteers

The Elmswell Library Friends group are looking for new volunteers. Please speak to library staff if you are willing and able to assist in any way.

Opening Hours

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Monday	Closed
Tuesday	1000 – 1300, 1400 – 1900
Wednesday	1400 – 1700
Thursday	1000 – 1300, 1400 – 1900
Friday	1400 – 1700
Saturday	1000 – 1300
Sunday	1000 – 1500



ELMSFEST

Spring has just about sprung and the evenings are remaining lighter for longer – hooray! But the good news doesn't stop there... we have now confirmed our headline act for ElmsFest 2019 – Philippa Hanna. Philippa is an acclaimed British singer-songwriter who rose to fame in the music industry in 2007, touring with the likes of Lionel Richie, Little Mix, Leona Lewis, Wet Wet Wet and Anastacia. She has released five albums, a live DVD and has had two autobiographical books published. Who'd have thought, a big name performing live to the little village of Elmswell!

Crest Nicholson (Wetherden Road developers) are proud to sponsor Philippa at ElmsFest 2019.

As if that wasn't tempting enough, we are also very excited to welcome Circus Avago and Wonder Wheelers to ElmsFest. Do you consider yourself a bit of a risk taker, or does the thought of an unrideable bicycle challenge tempt you to put your skills to the test? Well this year you can enjoy participating (or watching) many varied circus activities all afternoon. Sounds fun, eh?!

All of this, plus much, much more, taking place at the Blackbourne on Sunday 1st September.

As mentioned above, Crest Nicholson are the Main Sponsor of this year's ElmsFest. Suffolk Mini Waste, Greathead Martial Arts and Park Garage Services have also confirmed sponsorship, but do you run a local business or would you like some exposure for your brand? Then why not become a sponsor and we will guarantee to promote your name on all of our publicity on the run up to ElmsFest. Please be in touch using the contact details below if you'd like more information.

Bookings are already coming in thick and fast, so if you'd like to book in for a craft stall, commercial pitch, attraction or a fundraising stand, then please do be in touch. Rates vary depending on the type of stall you require, but we never, and will never, charge for charity fundraisers or not-for-profit club and group participation.

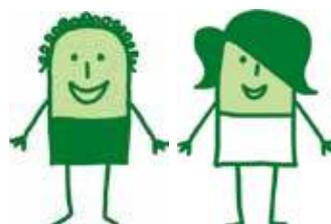
A booking form can be downloaded from our website at www.elmsfest.info, or alternatively, please email bookings@elmsfest.info or contact Mike on 01359 241699 or Chris on 07544 762448.



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ST JOHN'S CHURCH



This month, we're focusing on small groups!

We have a number of small groups within our parish that meet together regularly. The small group setting is the best place to get to develop deep friendships with other church members and to get that sense of belonging to something special.



Rather than being a random add-on to Church life, small groups are a central part of what we do as we seek to befriend and support each other, develop our spiritual growth and serve our community. Each group has its own distinct style: some meet weekly and some fortnightly, some meet during the day and some during the evening.

Some of our small groups include looking at what the Bible has to teach us:

- Tuesday 7:30pm
- Wednesday morning 10:15am
- Wednesday 8:00pm
- Thursday 10:00am "Mums the Word" – a lovely group specifically for ladies of all ages. A crèche is provided for those with pre-schoolers and babies.

For more specific information on these groups, such as where they meet and what they are studying, please ask!

Other regular groups include

- Monday 10:00am "Coffee Break at The Rectory" - please do just drop in for a coffee and a chat.
- Saturday 9:00am Prayers in St John's. All welcome.
- Monthly Friday Ladies' Lunch and occasional Men's breakfasts.

We enjoyed a wonderful February at St John's (lots of food related news):

- Men's breakfast heard from our Rector, Peter about the forgotten East Anglian revival of 1921, while enjoying eggs, bacon, sausage and more...
- Our half term messy church was based on Jesus calming the storm, which was a lot of fun followed by a party-style lunch enjoyed by everyone!

- Our quiz night was excellent as always! We laughed, we pondered the answers, we enjoyed family-style sausage casserole and we raised money for our beautiful church.
- Monthly Ladies' Lunch
- Earlier in the month we had a trip to St Mary's in Bury St Edmunds... The excellent Spring Harvest Prayer Unlimited team led extremely powerful worship and talks in the Spring Harvest Local event.

Do you like craft? On Saturday March 23rd at 9:30am we're holding an "origami craft themed brunch" for the ladies – do come along and take some time to relax and catch up with friends over a pastry and coffee. Marvellous.

Also, on March 13th, the Friends of St John's begin their annual Lent lunches – each Wednesday in St John's at noon. All welcome.

What else is going on this month?

Sunday 3rd March

9:30am Family Church
11:00am BCP Morning Prayer plus Communion

Wednesday 6th March

7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday 10th March

8:00am Holy Communion
10:30am Parish Praise

Sunday 17th March

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

Friday 22nd March

3:50pm Messy Church (drinks/biscuit from 3:30pm, finishes with a party-style tea)

Saturday 23rd March

9.30am Ladies Brunch with Origami crafts

Sunday 24th March

10:30am Healing Service with Holy Communion

Sunday 31st March Mothering Sunday

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:30am All Age Mothering Sunday Service

Sunday 7th April

9:30am Family Church
11:00am BCP Holy Communion



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

You are invited to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's to help with the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church. You can choose to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively you can simply make a donation.

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

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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

FEBRUARY 2019 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

11 in memory of my Brother. Louise. x.
27 "Happy Birthday, Louise".
Love from Mum & Nan. xx.

MARCH 2019 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 Brian Robinson. Remembering you on your Birthday, with love from all your family.
- 2 Margaret Clarke - remembered with love on her Birthday.
- 3 in loving memory of a dear husband, Duncan Wardrop, on our Wedding Anniversary. Love always, Alexandra. xx.
- 7 in loving memory of John Hopewell. "Always in our thoughts"
- 9 in loving memory of Rob Dalby. "Always in our thoughts on this sad day". Love, Mum, Dad, Victoria and Emma.
- 9 in loving memory of Bill Cammell. "Always in our thoughts". Love from all the family.
- 10 John Bennington. "Remembering our Wedding Anniversary 63 years ago, a lovely sunny day at the Methodist Church". Love, Elizabeth. xx.
- 15 in loving memory of Joyce Ivy Jackson, also her son Barry Antony Jackson, formerly of Bury St. Edmunds, with Elmswell roots.
- 19 cherished memories of Evelyn Simpson on her Birthday. Much loved and missed by all the family.
- 23 in loving memory of Joy Cammell. "Always in our thoughts". Love from all the family.
- 24 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 31 Dora Lily Handyside. Treasured memories of a dear Mum / Nan / Great Nan on this special day.
- 31 Mary Eveline Skinner. Remembered with so much love on Mothering Sunday, and always.
- 31 Remembering our special Mum, Evelyn Simpson, on Mothering Sunday. "God Bless".

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

During February we celebrated our 132nd church anniversary what a different world we live in today to that of 1887 when Caroline Watts founded our church in a tent on Lords field, where Blacksmiths Way now stands. Miss Watts lived and worked in Wetherden where she and her sister ran a school for young ladies, a Christian lady who from the age of 23 had been actively engaged in Christian work in Wetherden and surrounding villages, in 1884 she held fortnightly mission meeting in a cottage in the Blacksmiths Way area.

As time went by the fellowship grew and Miss Watts acquired the land where our current church now stands opening on the same day as Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887.

In 1922 the mission as it was known joined the Baptist Union, in 1969 Rev Richard Edwards became our minister. Richard now retired still returns once a year to preach to us his next being on the 60th anniversary of him becoming our minister in September this year.

Most of the above information was researched in 1987 by our elder statesman Charles Rudland and Mike Scott a former member and deacon of the our church, they produced a booklet that detailed a short history of our church, thank you gents for your work without it we would have no knowledge of our past.

So to 2019 we carry on the lords work as best we can with our monthly services and activities, which for March are:-

4th March

Ladies Friendship Group meet at 7.45pm to hear a talk by Chris Parfitt entitled Antarctic Odyssey contact Margaret on 01359 241541 for more information.

14th March at 12 noon Food and Friends Lunch at the church contact Jackie on 01359 245918 if you've not been before and would like to join us.

We are really grateful to our visiting preachers who come every Sunday at 10.30am to lead our services.

Our services during March will be led by:-

- 3rd March Kevin Moore
- 10th March Stephen Spurgeon
- 17th March Rev Barbara Challis
- 24th March Stephen Spurgeon
- 31st March Martin Lancaster

A warm and friendly welcome is always extended to anyone joining us for our activities and services.

Visit our website

www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk or contact our secretary Tony at cockant2@btinternet.com for any information not detailed above.

ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

With our three teams for 2019 registered with their respective leagues, we are feeling that the new season is not so very far away now. Of course, the gorgeous weather we are enjoying at the moment will turn it's back on us once we need it as we look to open the green in April. Just you watch, it happens every year! Please promise you won't laugh.

We have the new fixtures in hand so it is now a case of composing teams and allocating them to matches. The system we prefer is to have teams of three, or 'rinks', and rotating them so that each 'rink' gets the same number of matches and sits the same number of matches out each season. Holidays, illness and life in general tend to mess up any system but some sort of initial plan is really essential, There are clubs that choose teams pretty much at the last minute but most players like to know in advance when they are due to play and when they are 'free' and the rotating system allows for that.

We have a number of pre-season friendlies to arrange and we are taking Elmswell back into the Tommy Cooper tournament this year. Tommy Cooper, no, not that one, was greenkeeper for Elmswell, Risbygate and St Botolphs and his widow started a three- cornered competition in his honour after he passed away. There is some weight to the argument that very few of today's players actually knew Tommy and so it has little relevance any more but, with his widow still actively promoting it and it being in aid of the children's hospice, we thought that, having been invited back, we should be part of it. If any more justification was needed, we have several newbies who will be desperate for match practice and every friendly game helps. We are extremely pleased that our ranks have swollen to an encouraging 34 members now that all our anticipated membership forms are back but it does mean that we have to keep them all busy!

Peter Edmonds 07860395720

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Rob Dann hard at graft at Coney Weston



Dick and his nephew, Dully, relaxing at Elmsfest





BLACKBOURNE MAKES THE GRADE

On Saturday 9th February we held our first grading of 2019. Over 50 students were put through their paces and were successful in achieving their new colour belts.

Senior Examiner Paul was pleased to see that everyone had made great progress, and expressed that the academy was going from strength to strength.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and made the event a huge success, including students, parents, staff and Blackbourne Community Centre.



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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Is it Spring yet?

The transition from late winter into spring can be a magical time of year. Although some days are still dark and dreary, a sunny afternoon can really transform the landscape with all the promise of springtime. A walk round Lukeswood suggests that many of the signs are already there. As well as welcome clumps of snowdrops, wildflowers are beginning to poke their heads out – red and white deadnettle, speedwell and celandine, providing welcome nectar for any early emerging bumblebees. Buds are beginning to break on some of the trees, and the creamy-white flowers of the blackthorn are just about to open. The catkins on the hazel have been out for several weeks, and now – as well as the yellow lambs' tails of the male flower – if you look closely you can also spot the less obvious red female flowers. Birds are beginning to get active, too – nest-building and singing. At Lukeswood listen out for the song thrush, with its beautiful repeated notes. Great tits are calling now as well; their two-note song often described as 'tea-cher, tea-cher' (or you can make up your own mnemonic, if you prefer!). On very sunny afternoons you may be lucky enough to see an early butterfly – Red Admiral, Peacock, Tortoiseshell and Brimstone are among those overwintering species that may pop out in the spring warmth for a feed of nectar. The sight of a bright yellow Brimstone will be particularly welcome at Lukeswood as we're trying to

increase numbers of this gorgeous spring butterfly by planting Buckthorn, their specialist food plant. Let's hope that Spring really is here, and that we don't get a late bite of winter like last year's Beast from the East!

with metal fronts – this is to deter woodpeckers, which will often enlarge the hole to get in and predate the nestlings (I'm sure many readers will have seen this on Spring Watch!).



Nesting birds at Lukeswood

St Valentine's Day is the traditional time to put up nesting boxes for birds. We've put up half a dozen at Lukeswood, now that the trees are big enough to attach a box to. We're hoping they'll provide nesting places for Great and Blue Tits. Once the birds are feeding young, the parents will be flying in and out of boxes with caterpillars every few minutes, so keep an eye out while you're walking round to see if you can spot any activity. Our boxes are protected



A Black Lady at Lukeswood

We've just planted a very special new sapling at Lukeswood. It's a female Black Poplar, planted to complement our existing group of Black Poplars around the pond. Some tree species have both male and female characteristics (like the flowers of the hazel mentioned above). Others, like the Black Poplar, have separate male and female trees. All of our Black Poplars are male, so this new acquisition is a welcome addition to our colony. Black Poplars are becoming increasingly rare, and we're very pleased that Lukeswood is hosting a small stronghold of this iconic Suffolk species. Will they pollinate, set seed and produce new saplings? Doubtful, as the Black Poplar needs very special conditions for this to happen naturally – mud, running water and specific soil type. Nevertheless, we're very happy to introduce our new Black Lady to join the group of drunken boys leaning on each other that make up our resident group. Once she's grown up, look out for drifts of fluffy seeds floating about on the wind!

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk

KH

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WESLEY PROJECT

Planning Permission has been granted for the Parish Council's plans for: *Change of use...from ecclesiastical to community use...demolition of community hall and erection of single storey community hall* at the Wesley in School Road.

The application was approved without objection in just 7 weeks from submission. The build-up to it had taken just a little longer.

Since 2013 the Methodist Church had invited community involvement in managing the 2 halls adjacent to their chapel and, as their congregation had dwindled, there was talk of the village somehow acquiring the site for community use.

Nevertheless, the Methodist owners made 2 Planning applications – one for residential development of the chapel itself and another to build houses adjacent. Meanwhile, the site had been successfully registered as an Asset of community Value, which gave the village the opportunity, through the Parish Council to try to secure it and save the loss of this invaluable community resource to yet more housing.

The process was not easy. However, on 13th June 2017 the sale was completed, the Blackbourne Management Association became The Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association (BWMA) and attention turned immediately to developing the site into a community facility better fitted to suit both the village as-is and the village that is emerging from the considerable pressures of development which seem to be inevitable.

Informed and professional input has consistently confirmed that the existing halls did not satisfy the standards expected by most hirers. Apart from the aesthetics, the overriding problems of lack of parking and the impossibility of heating the main hall to an acceptable level suggested that development would have to be from the ground up – always, of course, keeping the Victorian chapel intact and restored to its former glory.

A working party of Parish Councillors has worked closely with the BWMA and progress has been swift given that now all concerned are on board with the vision which has emerged. The architect appointed is Alan Wilkinson of K LH, Ipswich, who has vast experience of community projects, so much so that he was commissioned by Suffolk ACRE (now Community Action Suffolk) to write a design guide for village halls. The process of packing so many aspirations on to so tight a site has required long, hard thinking, but the results would seem to capture those aspirations within the practical constraints.

In the process it became clear that, for a community the size of Elmswell, and for a community growing as fast as Elmswell, the idea of, 'a village hall', is no longer appropriate. Blackbourne is now very well established as a letting venue that serves many local user-groups well and which subsidises its community role by attracting other business – training courses, seminars, formal hearings and meetings across a broad range of external agencies. Wesley is far too small to be able to operate as cost-effectively as this, but it can add to the range offered at Blackbourne which offers flexibility, it can continue to act as the home base



for many community groups and it can strike out on another tack. It can address, even in a small way, the need for a community gathering place that is open and welcoming to all on an informal basis so that, as Elmswell grows from big village to small town there is a focus where new community relationships can be established and encouraged. Genuine 'community hub'.

This may all be better said by the 'Client's Aspirations' which formed part of the Architects Design and Access Statement, part of the successful Planning Application:

The Proposal seeks to bring, intact, into general community use the redundant Wesley chapel in the centre of the village and to augment the facility thus afforded with a new-build element providing further community meeting spaces and all necessary offices. The chapel was deemed to be surplus to requirements and sold to the Parish Council by the Methodist Circuit, their having failed in 2 attempts to have Planning Permission granted for housing. The community successfully registered the site as an Asset of Community Value and there is widespread support for the refurbishment of the chapel as a non-designated heritage asset to serve the rapidly expanding population of the village of Elmswell. Some 12 current user groups look forward to the replacement of the existing 1950's utility hall, attached to the chapel, which is expensive to maintain, almost impossible to heat adequately and is served by toilet and kitchen facilities barely compliant with legislation and falling far short of 21st Century expectations.

Beyond the immediate needs of the current users, there is perceived to be a lack of social focus in a community set to expand by some 44% within the next 10 years as a result of extant Planning Permissions. This scheme seeks to provide high-standard, flexible, multi-purpose facilities following the extremely successful pattern of the Council's Blackbourne complex which is lately failing to keep up with the burgeoning demand for community facilities. Centring on the glass-walled atrium which serves both meeting spaces the facility lends itself to informal 'coffee lounge' use providing a social hub from which wide ranging community benefits would result. These same facilities, when programmed, would provide the scope for catering as required by one or both of the meeting spaces and serve as circulation space when the whole facility is used for a single event.

Expressions of Interest have been invited from suitably qualified construction companies. Professionals are appointed in all relevant areas of the building design process so that a concise working brief can form the basis of firm quotations towards the aspiration on the part of all concerned that Contracts can be signed in May. The build-time is estimated at some 8 months.

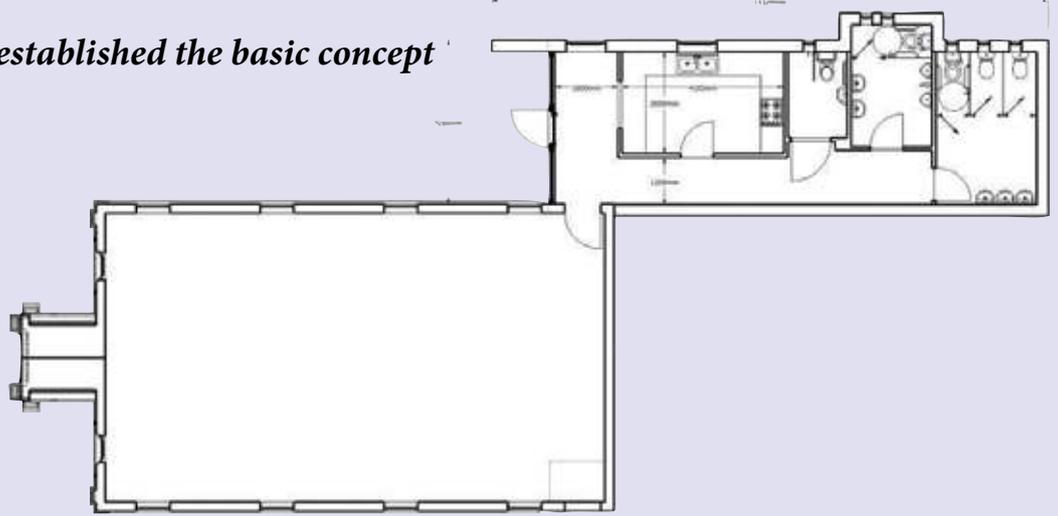
Any and all comments are invited via the Parish Council office at Blackbourne, email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



The view, as proposed, from School Road

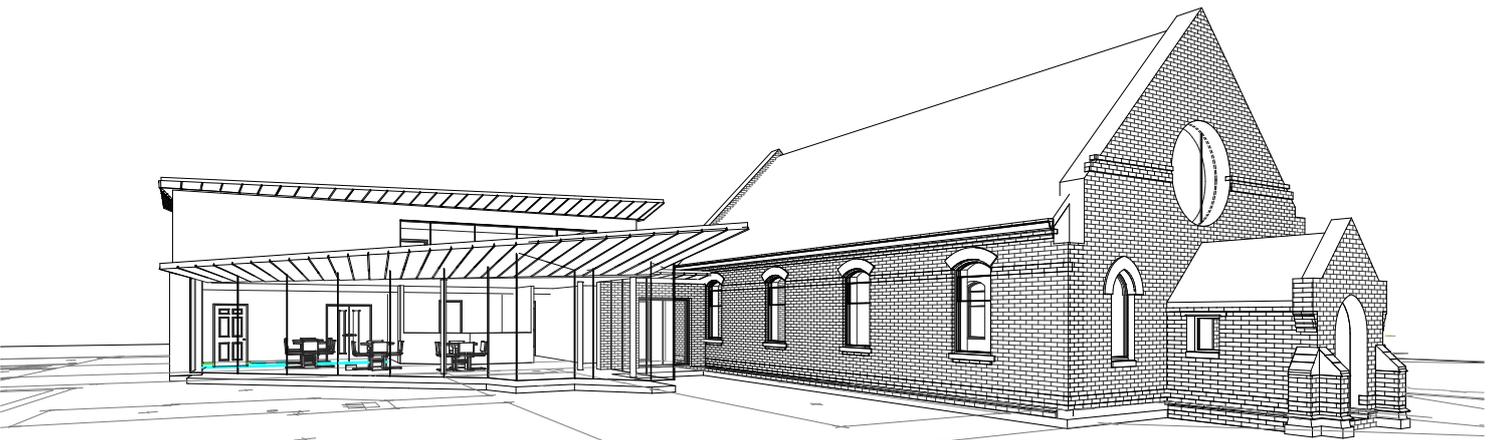
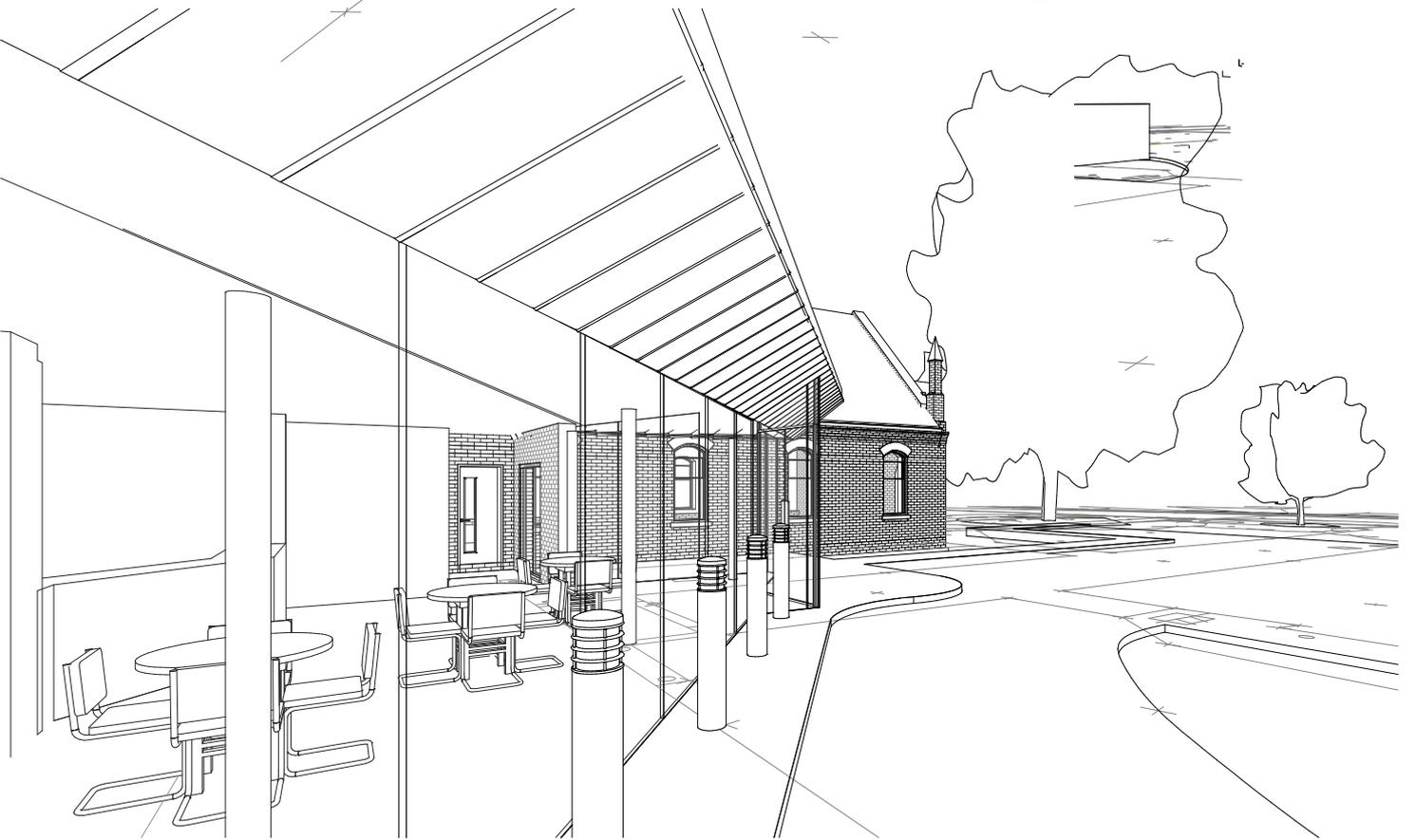
WESLEY PROJECT

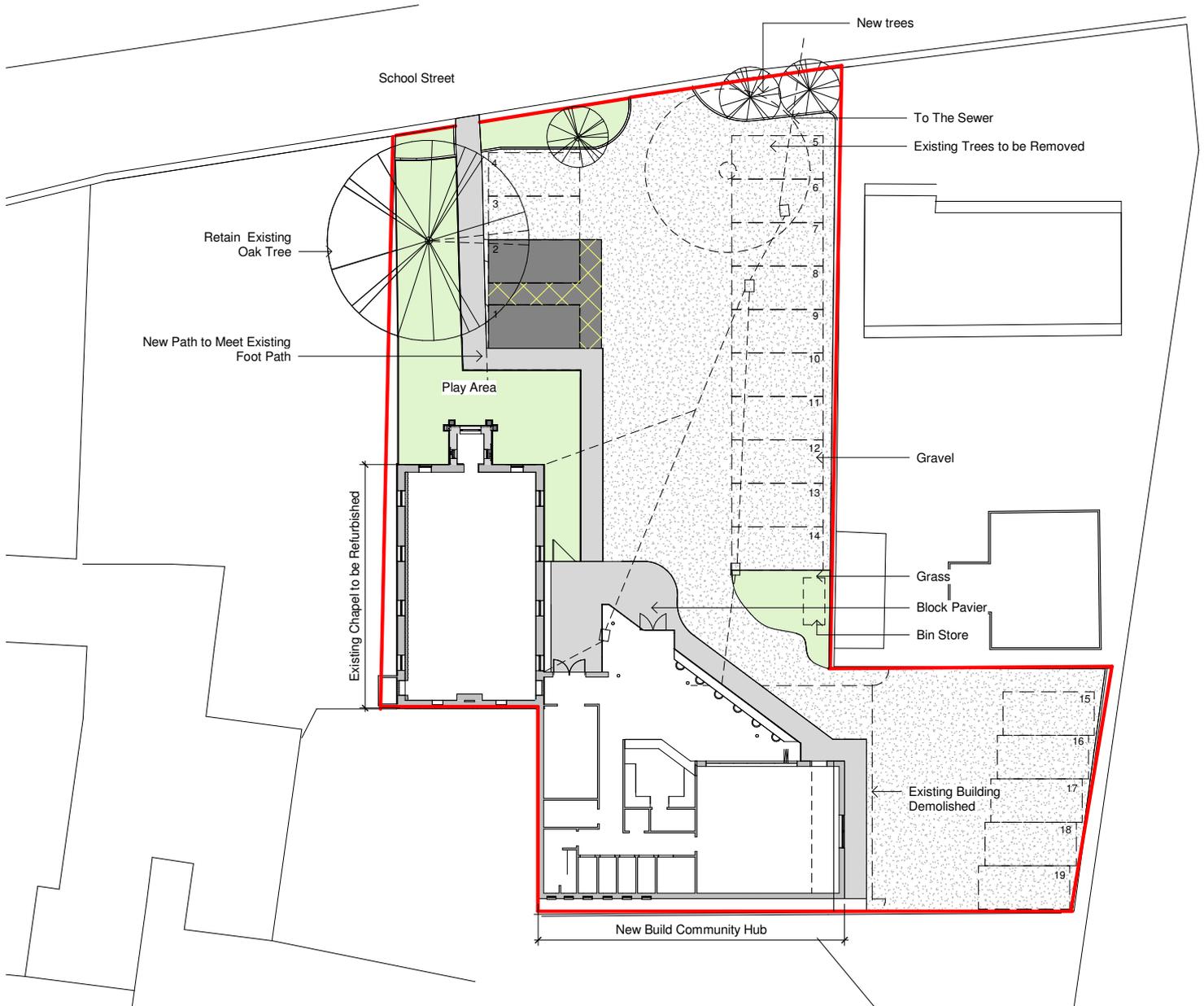
First thoughts in 2015 established the basic concept



Later thoughts on the floor plan took it further







The proposed site plan

CITIZENS ADVICE

TIME OFF WORK

A broken boiler has shut down my 8-year-old's school but I need to get to my job at the shop I am employed by. I am worried if I take the day off my boss will sack me or dock my wages. What can I do?

It's important to know that if your child's school is closed, you're entitled to take time off to make sure they're looked after.

Employees who care for young children have the right to what's known as Dependant Leave, which covers emergencies such as your child's school being closed.

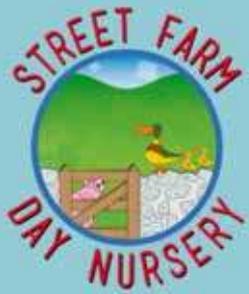
Dependant Leave gives you a "reasonable amount" of time off work to deal with an emergency relating to your child.

- Speak to your manager as soon as possible.
- Although an employer can't refuse to let you take Dependant Leave, they might be worried about the effect on the business.
- Make it clear you have no option, that you will only take the necessary time and that you will keep in touch.
- Check your workplace policy - different employers have different policies. They may allow you to take paid time off, annual leave or to make up the hours later.
- If this doesn't cover you, request Dependant Leave. You are entitled to this, so if they try to discipline or fire you, you can get support from Citizens Advice.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including employment, housing, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or go to the Advice Centre on 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket. For more information and our opening hours go to www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk.



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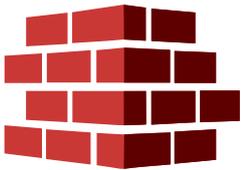
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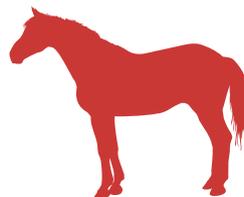
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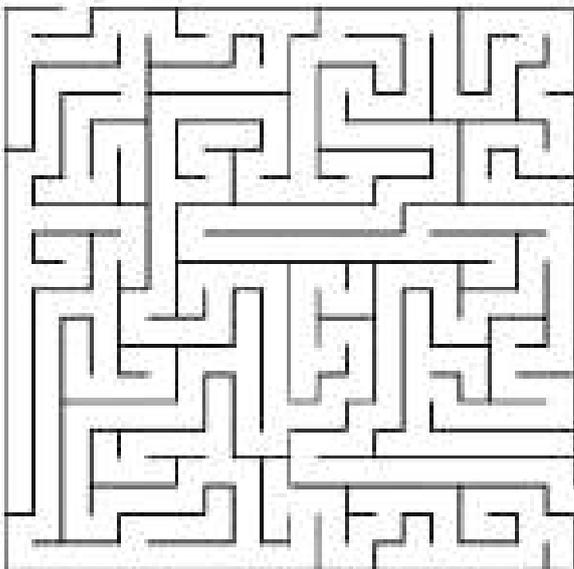
Making a pinecone rose 3-D Mother's day card is an easy handmade craft project child can make. Mums, grandmas, and aunties love receiving homemade cards on Mother's Day!

- Twigs
- Small Pine cones
- Rose leaves (optional, can also be painted)
- Acrylic paint
- Paint brushes
- White card
- White glue



Mother's Day Maze

This little wants to pick some flowers for his mother.
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Mummy I love you
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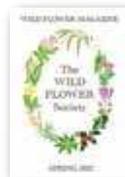


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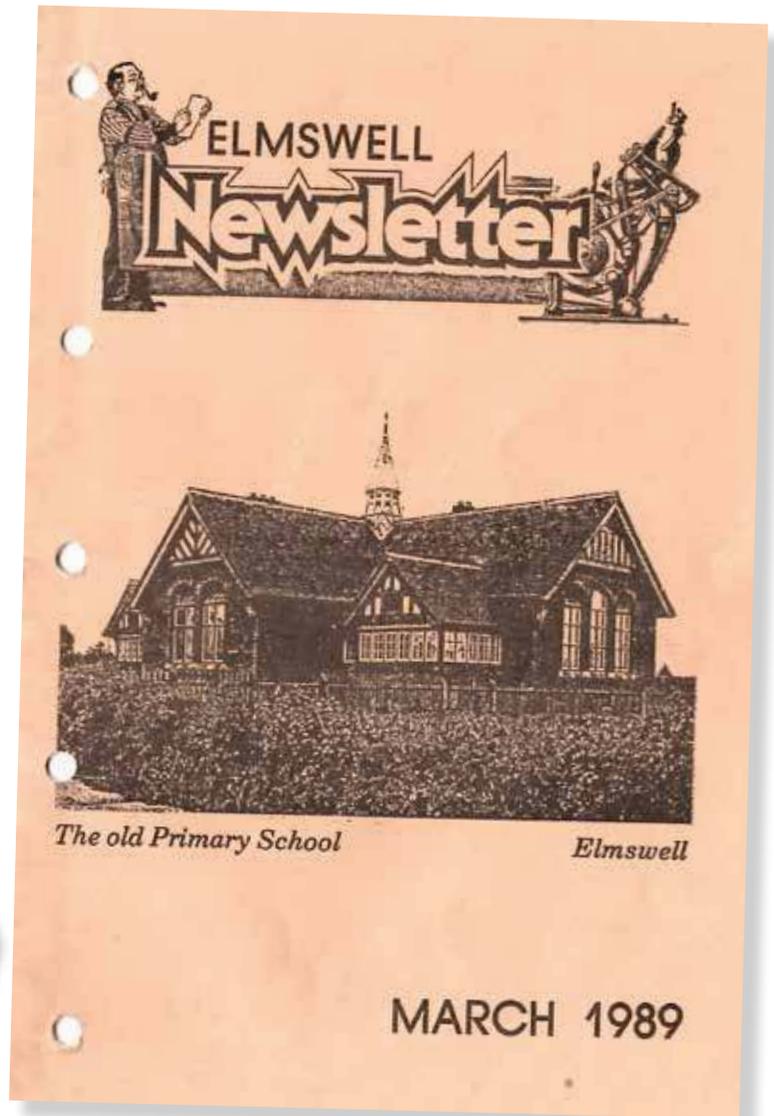
30+ YEARS OF PARISH RECORD...

This edition of your Newsletter marks a milestone. In March 1989, in the month that the brand new Sky satellite TV service showed Nigel Mansel winning the Brazilian Grand Prix, we asked KDS Printers at Chattisham near Ipswich to print our magazine, and every month since then they have done so to excellent effect.

A 'Newsletter' had been published by the parish council in November 1983 - 4 sheets of A4 typewritten & Roneo'd (Google it, boys and girls - Ed.) information including the trend-setting paragraph regarding the fact that, 'Cars are being parked on pavements in Wetherden Road and School Road. This is dangerous...' together with news of separate 3 ballroom dances in the village hall towards Christmas (tickets £3.00 including buffet) and of the instructions to a solicitor in the matter of compulsorily purchasing land for a village playing field, given the recent loss of the current facility to make way for houses at Bennett Avenue and Oxer Close.

This publication was published bi-monthly, but, by October 1986, the baton was passed to the Amenities Association and energetically picked up by Bob Kentish - from that moment on known throughout the village as, 'Scoop' (Google again, kids - try 'Evelyn Waugh').

Bob wrote his uniquely styled editorials, twisted arms, cajoled and persuaded and worked his socks off to produce the little A5 format typed magazine that eventually blossomed into the 7 times winner of the Suffolk Newsletter of the Year, publishing 1700+ copies in full colour. Still put together and distributed by volunteers - about 40 at any one time and many more having come and gone over those intervening years, we now produce a surplus of advertising income over expenditure making a healthy contribution to the Amenities Association coffers to benefit the village - witness £60,000.00 recently granted to the Wesley scheme. ♦



The KDS team with many of our distributors celebrating at The Fox in 2009. Sadly not all are still with us, including Eric Gaskin who, with his wife Pat, started the business in 1963.

From left to right at the front see Wendy Southgate, Betty Pryke, Jean Folkard, Jean Barker, John Barker from SALC who presented the award, Pat Gaskin, Eric Gaskin, Tina Keeble from KDS who put the magazines together at that time, Diann Armstrong, Mary Mulley, and Peter Edmonds. In the background, but only for this picture, are Barbara Yeates, Stella Chamberlin, Lynette Last, Marion Petchey, Peter Dow, Terry Southgate, Val English, Lauren Barker, Dick Burch, John Petchey, Dave Hollings, David Barker, Tony Marsham, Derek Folkard and Dr John Dodds.



Bob wrote his uniquely styled Editorials...

ELMSWELL NEWSLETTER

March

From the Editor

Last month the familiar subject of DOGS came up. Last year we ran a number of articles on this subject also, including our local doctor's report. Just recently the B.B.C. devoted a TV programme to this very old yet currently important subject of dogs' faeces. Those that saw it must be greatly impressed. We were told of 300 people struck down each year from disease spread from dogs' faeces; yet encouraged by how cheaply it could be eradicated if dog owners would apply themselves to purchase this cheap remedy. This of course does not solve the physical mess problem.

Landfill sites, toxic waste — irresponsible contractors tipping highly toxic waste around our countryside, without a "by your leave" just to make a quick fortune from complete disregard for our environment.

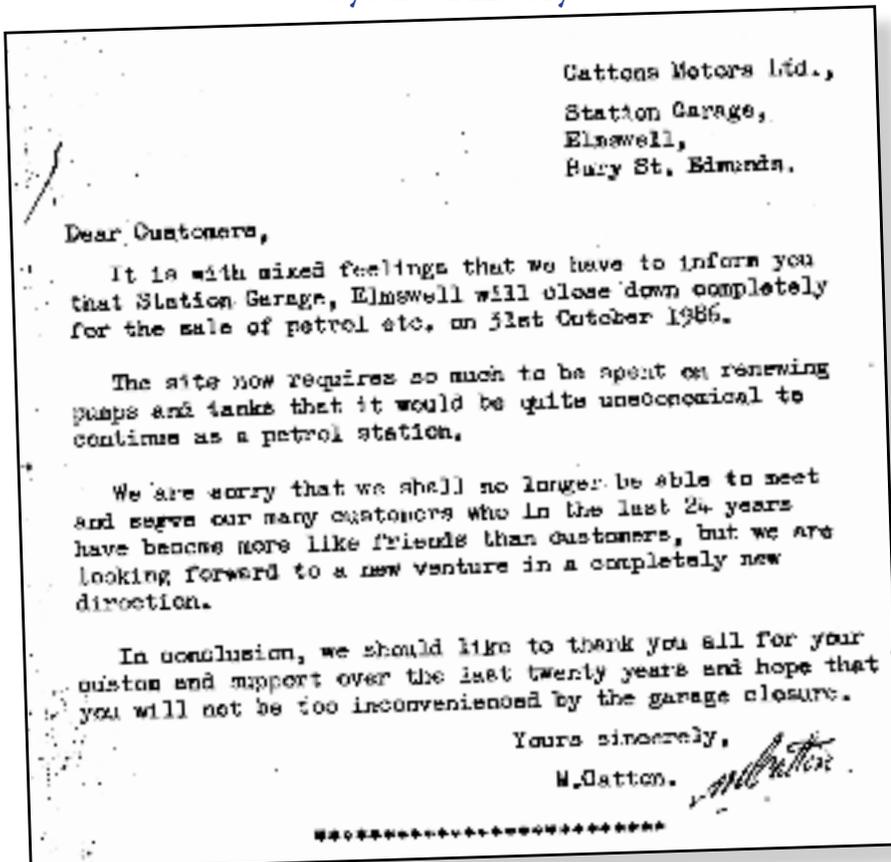
KDS, our printers, have played a major part in this success. So much of the presentation style and distinctive 'feel' has come in discussion with them over the years. With KDS at our elbow we introduced colour in April 2006 — Kevin Hollings Kitchens took our first colour advertisement, and he's still with us! Again, as the little A5 format became too fat to be practicable because of the magazine's popularity, in May 2010 KDS helped us grow into the current A4 size.

The KDS team came up to help celebrate the very first Newsletter of the Year Award at a star-studded reception in The Fox in November

2009, and we've won that accolade on every possible occasion since — with KDS (now, rather more posh as, 'Printing For Pleasure') with us all the way. All the way through 360 editions published without fail and on time on the first Friday of every month. For 30 years.

The current front-of-house team is Lester, who puts the pages together, and Jason who actually gets inky and prints them. Asked for a suitable quote, Jason, never far from his football affiliations, expressed the hope that we continue to be well red and that, with KDS behind us, we'll never walk alone.

30 years of history...



The October 1986 magazine carried this letter from Mike & Pat Catton who had decided to close their garage (opposite The Mace shop). The house remains, having been a pub, The Red Lion, before it became a garage.

Some advertisers who have fallen by the wayside

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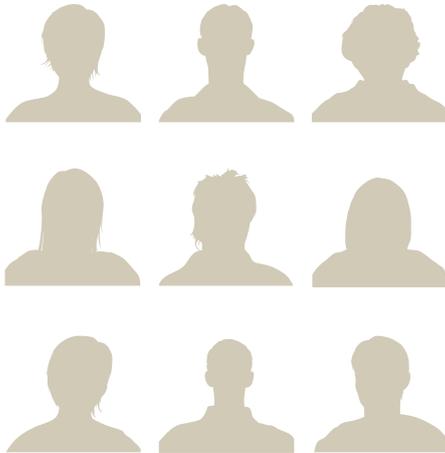
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A simple internet search will provide more details, or be in touch with the Parish Council office at Blackbourne – telephone 244134, email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk for more details of how to stand for election.



BWMA NEWSLETTER REPORT

The Committee met on 18th February and welcomed the news that the Wesley Planning Application has been registered and that Building Regulations and Structural and Mechanical Engineer services are undergoing due process. Once Planning Permission is secured, comment will be invited through consultation with the community towards supporting applications for funding to augment the funds already in place through BWMA surplus, Amenities Association, Fox Bowls Club and other grants together with money from the Government's Community Infrastructure Levy which all new housing now yields. The process of taking the project forward will entail advertising for expressions of interest from construction firms and, subsequently, an Architect / Q.S. -driven tender process.

With regard to the storage and accommodation problems during the Wesley build period, it is to be suggested to EPC that they purchase a lorry body to house various infrequently used equipment and that this might be retained pending the proposed extension of storage for the Chamberlayne Hall, a project currently on hold pending completion of Wesley.

The Chairman expressed appreciation of the co-operation currently being demonstrated across the board by user groups making adjustments and concessions as required in the co-ordination of letting spaces during the Wesley build-out, identifying as an example the recent very welcome Beavers / WI adjustments in light of a long-standing external letting commitment.

Other adjustments will mean that certain equipment, for example, crockery, will have to be communal and not be duplicated by each user group. Some current practices and the mindset of hirers may have to change to adapt to the new conditions, for example,

identifying and honouring realistic setting up/finishing times.

Currently all hirers, except for the Tuesday Zumba classes, can be accommodated at the Blackbourne for the 8-months when the Wesley is re-developed. The Jubilee Hall roof repair is closer now that the Insurance Company has chosen a contractor to do the work, but it may interrupt football for a couple of weeks when scaffolding could possibly encroach upon the full-sized pitch playing area. The extension of the Blackbourne CCTV facility is likely to remain on a back-burner until the Wesley finance framework is in place, but the ceiling-mounted projector / screen proposals will be funded from Cllr Jayne Storey's promised £4,225.00 donation from her Locality Budget.

Football user-groups remain problematic, although EYFC seems to have given up any attempt to use the full-sized Blackbourne pitch. EFC have agreed to pay for a one-off clean-up following a very messy session and to pay for subsequent wet-vac floor cleaning when necessary.

As requested by the Police, it has been possible to lock the Blackbourne Car Park on 3 occasions recently. Meanwhile, the new entrance sign is in place which will, hopefully, persuade dog owners to act more responsibly. All banners are now removed.

Treasurer, Mr Brooks, declared an income to date of £45,179 for the Blackbourne and £7,322 for the Wesley and said that we had transferred £11K to the EPC in regular payments and £60K as a lump sum which was era-marked for the Wesley project. We are on track for a total annual income of £61,964 comprising £52,590 from the Blackbourne and £8,594 from Wesley. The committee endorsed his proposal to increase the monthly transfers to the EPC to £1.5K from the start of the new financial year.

Bookings remain very healthy and growing consistently requiring careful management. The new Circle Dancing group has started well with 20+ regularly attending.

Recent maintenance issues have included the need for yet another replacement heater at Wesley and water damage to the timber flooring in the Chamberlayne vestibule which is in hand.

Other issues covered included the noting by the Chairman at a recent CAS Village Halls information event of the effectiveness of a constant hot water unit in the kitchen of the host venue removing the need for kettles and urns and the offer from the Keeper's Daughter Theatre Group of a Christmas production should any user-group wish to help organise it as a community event.

Peter Edmonds, Secretary



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The Parish Council has a plot available at the Church Hill allotments.

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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL February 2019 Report

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Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August. The February meeting took place on the 18th at The Blackbourne with 6 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel, Suffolk County Council Ward member Jane Storey and 2 members of the public.

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

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud, in the Memorial Library and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes, from the meeting on 21st January, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllr Sarah Mansel tabled a written report confirming that the draft Joint Local Plan, covering Planning policies for both Babergh and Mid Suffolk, had been due to be discussed at Full Council in January, but, unfortunately, the Administration has decided that putting it out for consultation in the next few months would be too difficult in the run up to the next election in May. Consequently, it will now not be published until June after which it might be expected to go to the Inspector for ratification and subsequent implementation by the end of the year. Meanwhile, MSDC have agreed to fund two PCSO for the villages who will be involved in a range of activities including parking related matters, speeding and low level anti-social behaviour. They will also be available to drop in on local businesses and community organisations. One PCSO is already out and about and the second has now been recruited. With regard to the bungalows at Mann's Court which have been empty for some years following a heating oil contamination incident, a site survey has recently concluded that, due to surface water issues, it is not expected that Planning Permission for redevelopment of the site would succeed, given surface water issues and that the only option would be decontamination and refurbishment. An officer group has been set up to make the best use of the housing assets (such as this one) across the district.

Suffolk County Council

Cllr Jane Storey tabled a written report which included news of announcement that there are 96 places available on the 2019 Great East Swim programme, which starts in March and culminates on the 22 June 2019 at the Great East Swim at the Alton Water reservoir near Ipswich. The programme is open to individuals who are aged 18 years and over who are not currently physically active. The programme take place at Crown Pools in Ipswich and Haverhill Leisure Centre, Haverhill, between March and June. Individuals who sign up for the programme will receive an extensive package of support which aims to provide them with the confidence, stamina and self-belief to complete their personal challenge and become active for life. To apply for a place on the programme people can visit www.suffolksport.com/greastswim. Applications close on Friday 22 March 2019.

Railway Tavern

Councillors noted that their request for the Railway Tavern to be registered as an Asset of

Community Value with Mid Suffolk has been successful. The move was prompted by the recent successful Planning application for 8 houses on the pub land and the fear that an application for the Tavern itself to be turned into yet another house might be forthcoming, which would seek to rob the fast-expanding village of an invaluable social resource. The registration means that a local land charge has been made and a restriction placed at the Land Registry to the effect that, should the owner wish to dispose of the property, they will be required to inform Mid Suffolk and grant a 6 month moratorium to allow the community to put together bids to buy the property. This has recently proved to be an effective route to the Parish Council acquiring the Wesley site for the community in the face of energetic attempts by the Methodist Church to convert the chapel into a house and to build other houses adjacent. It has also been successful in other local communities which now run their own local pub.

Planning Results

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

DC/18/04015

Change of use of land...to allow 2 glamping pods at Kiln Farm Guest House, Kiln Lane EPC supported, Permission GRANTED

DC/18/05363

Erection of two dwellings...at Kiln Farm Cottage, Kiln Lane

EPC objected, Permission GRANTED

Planning Applications

The Meeting discussed the following applications referred to them by Mid Suffolk and thought deserving of comment:

DC/19/00399

Erection of 1no. dwelling on Land adjacent to Marlborough, Cross Street. The Meeting agreed to support this application.

DC/18/04267

Approval of reserved matters...scale, appearance, landscaping and layout... discharge of conditions 4, 5, 11, 12, 13 and 21 of permission 3469/16 on Land to the East of Borley Crescent. The Meeting agreed to repeat its recent comments on a substantively similar recent application which urged refusal unless and until the question of the dramatic reduction in the provision of bungalows (2) when compared with the original number (16) which factor had formed a key element of the Council's original support for this scheme

DC/19/00052

Change of use of Wesley hall from ecclesiastical to community use. Demolition of community hall and erection of single storey community hall. Wesley hall, School Road The Meeting noted with approval that there had been no adverse comment registered with Mid Suffolk from either statutory consultees or from neighbours to this, the Parish Council's own Application.

5 year Housing Land Supply

The Clerk reported on a recent Position Statement document which is important because it makes the case for Mid Suffolk having satisfied the Government's requirement under its National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) for all Borough & District Planning Authorities to have demonstrated a 5 year supply of demonstrably deliverable houses in order that their Local Plan policies are the Planning rules that developers must follow if they are to be granted permission to build.

He noted that Mid Suffolk's previous case (that they had a 5 year supply) was challenged on Appeal when the Inspector had reference to the July 2018 revised NPPF which had not been published when the Council made their case.

Specifically, in the revised NPPF, a new definition of 'deliverable' goes beyond that which its predecessor had laid down. It is no longer good enough to rely upon the fact that a site has Outline Planning Permission (OPP). The Council must provide evidence that housing completions on the site will begin within 5 years. This was not the case when MSDC drew up its Annual Monitoring Report in July 2018. Some 1,224 dwellings with OPP were assumed to be 'deliverable' with no evidence to satisfy the new ruling on what 'deliverable' means. For this, and other similar reasons, the Inspector found that Mid Suffolk only had a 3.4 (or lower) housing supply to be delivered over the next 5 years. This decision effectively destroys Mid Suffolk's case across the board. Hence the subsequent, apparently unstoppable, flood of applications for development, including in Elmswell, with no reference to strategic local planning and with no local community input. Hence the importance of this new document, published to test the robustness of Mid Suffolk's current case. The Position



Statement, is a re-evaluation of the supply of deliverable housing sites in Mid Suffolk in light of the July 2018 Government guidance. It concludes that a figure of 5.32 years is reliable.

The Meeting noted the Clerk's view that this document would seem to come to a sound and defensible conclusion on which MSDC Planners can rely in making their assessment of Planning Applications and the Clerk was asked to make this assessment known to Mid Suffolk.

Wesley Project

The Chairman, who sits on the working group taking this scheme forward, reported on excellent progress made possible by effective liaison with the professionals with whom the group is working. So far the aspirational aim of a signed contract by the beginning of May remains on track. The Meeting approved the following allocation of contracts for professional services, all having been subject to competitive quotation with full documentation available to Councillors and as overseen by the project Architect and Quantity Surveyor, with all sums quoted net of VAT:

Mechanical & electrical design services, Messrs AJ Consultants Ltd, Hawkins Road, Colchester @ £9,200.00;

Building Control services, Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Council Building Control @ £745.00;

Structural engineering & design. Messrs Superstructures (East Anglia) Ltd of Ipswich @ £5,950.00;

Drainage engineering & design services, Messrs Ingent Consulting engineers of Brightwell, @ £2,450.00;

Ground conditions survey pits, Messrs BA Turner Subsidence Investigation, @ £700.00. Meanwhile, in order to deal with the logistical storage problems whilst Wesley is closed for the building programme and all user groups have to be fitted in at Blackbourne, it was agreed that a 20ft. lorry container be purchased for £2,050.00 net of VAT. This will be sited unobtrusively at Blackbourne to be sold-on when there is no longer the need.

District Council Community Strategy

As a joint exercise, Babergh & Mid Suffolk district Councils have drafted a 'Community Strategy' setting out their vision for the type of future they want to develop with their communities and providing the foundations to achieve it. The Meeting regretted the wordiness of the vague and repetitive generalities within the document which

seems to offer a rosy and catch-all scenario without adequate substance or practical reference. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the Clerk should respond to the request for a response along the lines defined in his paper to the meeting.

Parking

In April 2020, responsibility for parking enforcement throughout Suffolk will be transferred from the Police to the district & borough councils. This presents the opportunity for restrictions at key points on the village's increasingly crowded and busy roads as it will allow for a realistic enforcement regime. The first steps towards shaping the Mid Suffolk response were taken on 4th February when a Joint Area parking Plan was discussed at District level. The Meeting noted that a consultation is expected.

Wetherden Road closure

The Chairman reported on progress in addressing the widespread deep-seated concerns regarding the road closure for a period of at least 14 weeks at Wetherden Road where the contentious 240 house development has begun. The minor mitigation in terms of signage as already agreed, together with close liaison between the Clerk and the Developer has, apparently, dealt effectively with issues as they have arisen and there will be continued pressure to allow at least one-way traffic working whenever this is feasible and safe. The Clerk undertook to pursue the basic issue of the lack of meaningful community consultation with the SCC Portfolio Holder for Highways who has promised that such procedures are included in a current major review.

Potholes

The Meeting agreed that the Village Warden should be asked to map the potholes in village roads that pose sufficient risk to warrant the attentions of SCC Highways so that the Clerk can subsequently ensure that they are reported for action and that progress towards infilling can be tracked.

Social Prescribing

The Meeting noted an explanation, as requested, from Mid Suffolk Ward Member Cllr John Levantis regarding the proposed 'Social Prescribing' initiative, whereby a new post of Link Worker is to be developed to, effectively, intervene in the estimated 20% - 30% of attendances at GP surgeries which are the result of socially-related issues and to

make an appropriate referral to another more appropriate agency, thus freeing up GP time. The Clerk was asked to seek clarification that this new level of intervention is not a very costly substitute for the CAB service which is largely volunteer-based and which is under threat of a total funding withdrawal by Suffolk County Council.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 18th March 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.suffolk.cloud, on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op outside the Post Office.



FOOTPATH WALK

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

SUNDAY 10th MARCH
beginning at 11.00 am
from the village sign.

Open to all comers & led by
Footpath Officer Dick Burch

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

*Dogs on leads welcome –
stout shoes recommended*

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.

Mar	Apr	May	June	July
18th	15th	20th	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



What's On in Elmswell ?



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

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

March 2019

- 1 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 4 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Antarctic Odyssey with Chris Parfitt
- 6 Exchange Afternoon WI
A Song of Their Own - the story of Suffragettes in Ipswich and surrounding villages
- 7 Over 55's Club Fish & Chip Supper followed by Bingo
- 9 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Yum Yum Tree Fudge
- 13 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 13 ELF Committee Meeting at the Library commencing 6:00pm.
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm, Speaker Miriam Stead: "Tea for the British, with a little twist of Suffolk"
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 15 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 19 Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr Parfitt
- 19 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm.
Speaker: Nigel Start - 'Fruit Tree Pruning'
- 20 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:30am
- 21 Over 55's Club AGM
with music by Mike Reed & Wendy
- 22 3:50pm St John's Messy Church & tea (doors open 3:30pm)
- 22 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 29 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 29 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

April 2019

- 1 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Stowmarket Food Bank with Mike Smith
- 3 Exchange Afternoon WI
Suffolk Land Search & Rescue
- 4 Over 55's Club Visit to 50's 7 60's Show at Spa Pavillon Felixstowe
- 5 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 5 Over 55's Club Welsh Weekend @ Tynedale Llandudno
- 7 2:15pm St John's Spring Walk - meet at The Rectory, Church Rd
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm
Ex Detective Chief Supt. Alan Caton MBE
- 10 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 11 Elmswell History Group's 19th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm, Speaker John Morris: "Constable at Flatford Mill"
- 12 10:30am St John's Messy Church & lunch
- 12 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne

- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Speaker: Karen Kenny - 'Compost, Worms and Comfrey for Fertility'
- 16 Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr Leader
Round the World in 102 Days
- 17 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:30am
- 18 Over 55's Club entertainment
by "Brotherhood" visitors welcome
- 24 ELF AGM at the Library commencing 6:00pm.
All welcome. Refreshments available.
- 25 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 26 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 26 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

May 2019

- 1 Exchange Afternoon WI AGM & Resolutions
- 2 Over 55's Club Eyes down for Bingo
- 8 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 9 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 9 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm, Speaker Richard Young: "Bury's Victorian Observatory"
July tickets on sale
- 10 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 10 3:50pm St John's Messy Church & tea (doors open 3:30pm)
- 11 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 13 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - The life of an auctioneer - with Bishop/Miller
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm
AGM and Resolutions
- 14 The Bible Today exhibition at The Blackbourne, open 10.00am - 8.00pm, admission free. The exhibition tells the story of the English Bible and its message for today.
- 15 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:30am
- 16 Over 55's Club Details later
- 17 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 21 Exchange Social Club Outing
- 21 Elmswell Gardening Club 7.15pm at Woolpit Nursery for an evening with Andrew Bain
- 23 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 30 Over 55's Club Day out at the Hut Felixstowe with Fish & Chips
- 31 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 31 10:30am St John's Messy Church & lunch
- 31 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

June 2019

- 3 7.00pm Elmswell Baptist Church Ladies Friendship Group visit to Crows Hall, Debenham
- 5 Exchange Afternoon WI
How holidays used to be
- 5 7:30pm St John's Thy Kingdom Come
Prayer and Praise evening
- 6 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 7 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 8 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne

- 9 6:30pm Pentecost - Christian's Together in Elmswell evening Service at St John's
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm
Louise Gregory, Line Dancing
- 12 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 13 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Claire Gapper: "Decorative Plasterwork in Elizabethan & Jacobean Suffolk" *July tickets on sale*
- 14 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 15 7:00pm St John's Summer Quiz Night.
- 18 Exchange Social Club To be arranged
- 18 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm.
Speaker: Dr Ian Bedford - 'Companion Planting for a Balanced Garden'
- 19 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:30am
- 20 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 21 3:50pm St John's Messy Church & tea (doors open 3:30pm)
- 25 Elmswell Gardening Club Annual Outing to Sundown Garden, Diss
- 28 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 28 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

July 2019

- 3 Exchange Afternoon WI A Passion for Swifts
- 5 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm
Summer social event
- 10 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 11 Elmswell History Group - 7pm
Annual Outing to Suffolk Police Museum, Martlesham Tickets from 01359-242601
- 12 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 16 Exchange Social Club AGM and Strawberry Tea
- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club To be arranged
- 26 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 26 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

August 2019

- 2 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 7 Exchange Afternoon WI Members' meeting
- 10 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm
Games and quizzes
- 16 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 20 Exchange Social Club Buxhall Museum and Afternoon Tea
- 30 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 30 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

September 2019

- 2 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Remarkable women of Ipswich - Ipswich Tourist Information Guide
- 4 Exchange Afternoon WI The work of Emmaus - charity for the homeless & vulnerable

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

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

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

A VILLAGE INDEX



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

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

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	eea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	John Welford	welford955@btinternet.com	240166
Baby & Toddler Group	Elysa Dale	elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
Beavers	Ruth Court	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
BATS – Badminton at Blackbourne	Peter Edmonds	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Jean Folkard	derekrf2@gmail.com	
Community Speed Watch	Mo Coulling	mocoulling@gmail.com	0777 4695784
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk	240555
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks (Sec.)	elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	245247
District Councillor	John Leventis	Johnleventis@gmail.com	01284 700925
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange afternoon WI	Maureen Davis	modavis6@gmail.com	
Exchange Club	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	
Fire Crew; non-emergencies	Brian Hawes	brian.hawes@suffolk.gov.uk	07761 125093
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Shaun Pratt	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com	07813 302808
Fox Bowls Team	Dick Burch	ann.richards47@gmail.com	240105
Friends of Elmswell School			
Friends of St Johns	Jean Folkard	derekrf2@gmail.com	242099
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Sue Howard	sueguides2011@talktalk.net	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Lunch Club	Brenda Begg	davidgbegg@gmail.com	242025
Library	Zoe Clark - Manager	elmswell@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleeelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Oil buying Group		elmswelloil@gmail.com	07813829008
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk,	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	David Hawes	davidandanna@yahoo.co.uk	240249
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
St John's Church	Jean Folkard	derekrf2@gmail.com	242099
Sewing Bee	Zoe Clark		07580 297140
Village Tree Officer	John Ibbetson	jayeye130@gmail.com	241086
WI - evening	Margaret Stevens	stevensmarg@tiscali.co.uk	408452
Youth Football	Raymond Flatt	raymond.flatt@hotmail.co.uk	07729 774610

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

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

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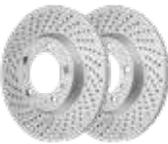
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