

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

December 2019



Elmswell Over 55's making for a MERRY CHRISTMAS
... see our Editorial page

NEW YEAR'S DAY FOOTPATH WALK
leaves at 11.00am from Crown Mill at the Village Sign...see p.24



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

'Tis the season

Oh yes, indeed it is. The season which brings to the fore much that is, for the rest of the year, well off the radar. Such as;



swaddling clothes... not often featured other than round about this time - particularly now that Mothercare's gone;

oxen, not to be confused with 'Hoxne' of which there is, of course, a whole hoard available to see most days;



...and wise persons, whom we desperately seek and, judging by the general wailing and gnashing of teeth throughout the land, we seek in vain.

The seeking ends (or has actually ended for those who've only just noticed their magazine under the pile of Black Friday promotional flyers and Amazon boxes) on 12th December. For Lo! A new Parliament will have come to pass. Complete with 3 gifts from the Wise Persons...possibly misleadingly reported via fake news as being Frankly Incensed, # Myrrh Too, and Fools' Gold.

The editorial crystal ball is a sad and battered relic, inexplicably addicted to alliteration; for some 30 years pummelled for poor prognostication, and, so, unwilling here to advise our reader as to the probable parliamentary personnel. However, it requires neither seer nor soothsayer to predict that the result will please some, will enrage others and will leave a vast middle-ground of dissatisfaction.

The 'none-of-the above' party will figure large in the post-election chat-fest. Mercutio's, 'A plague on both your houses', will be wheeled out and our elected representatives vilified and lampooned for not being better fitted for the job. Someone will mention their parliamentary salary to derisory effect and there will be general agreement that they are, and here Shakespeare fails us, 'a right shower'.

It is, it seems, inevitable that those who stand up to offer themselves for public office will be, once in that office, offered scant respect in recognition of what is, by definition, public spirited. Of late this lack of respect has soured and suppurated with tragic consequences. MP's live in fear of assault and worse. That cannot be right.

Unfortunately, it is a poisonous trend that affects lower tiers of governance away from the corridors of Westminster. The tribalism of party affiliation brings an unpleasant perspective at Suffolk County Council level where coups

are not uncommon. The knife-edge balance of power at Mid Suffolk stretches the rules and, therefore, credibility. Across the country last year 86 councillors at local level reported formally that they had been physically or verbally abused, figures which include the new-found weapon of the weak afforded by various online platforms. Two years ago this figure was 18 – a rise of almost 400%.

It is not unreasonable to project this trend even further down the public-service food chain to our local clubs and societies. There has always been an ebb and flow of willing volunteers to take office and ensure the continuation of these vital community bodies. Some, which serve the ever shifting age-related population of such as babies & toddlers, PTAs or young footballers, have a natural throughput of parents who may or may not be willing to volunteer to keep the clubs going. Others, at the further end of the age spectrum, hear, year after year, the plea at the AGM, 'if there is anyone else who would be willing to take the job on, I really would like a break from being Chairman / Treasurer/ Secretary'. Quietest moment of the meeting.

Whatever it is that drives certain individuals to make their contribution, it does not deserve to be criticised *per se*. It would be unnatural in the scheme of things if mistakes were not made and there always will be those who take on a job before realising that their reach exceeds their grasp. But they did take on a job. Any shortcomings are not deliberate. To those who snipe and snide on the side-lines, or who cower behind a keyboard, the opportunity to step forward and do better is always there. In the realms of local government, the opportunities afforded by social media for online abuse have led to a ten-fold increase in the poisonous outcomes since 2016. Cowards versus commitment.

Elmswell is resilient. Many of our community groups thrive. 20 or so are represented on the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association helping to drive the innovations at Wesley, the expansion at Blackbourne and a whole new world of possibilities at the Greene King site on School Road. The village's bowlers have re-grouped after the Club's recent set-back to grow and thrive with a new spirit and fresh outlook which bodes well for the future. The youth footballers have revived their refreshment stall and offer winter training under their portable floodlights for an increasing population of Beckhams-to-be, both boys and girls. The Over 55's have, once again, and at their own expense, set out to transform the Chamberlayne Hall into a winter party venue for all to enjoy.

December 12th offers a chance to have a say and make an impression, however small. The rest of the year and all of next year, offers the chance to make a bigger impression closer to home by opting to play a part in supporting the vitality of our village's variety.

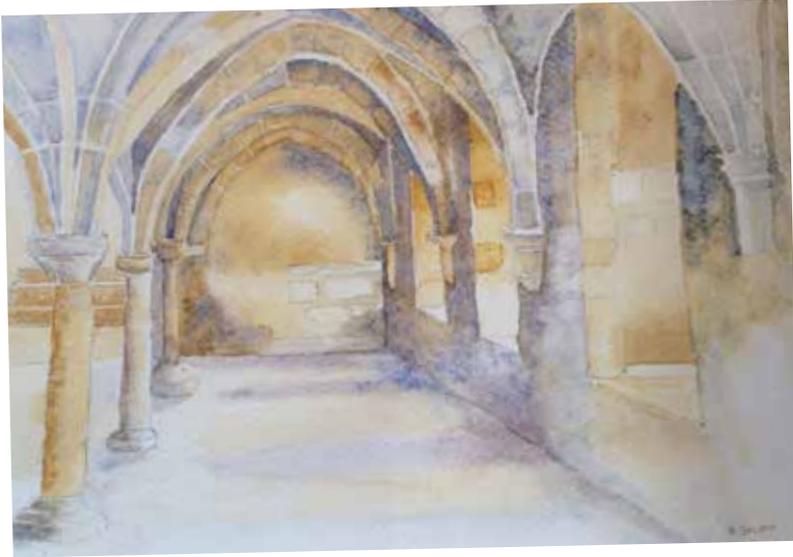
Meanwhile, from the 40+ volunteers who brought you this magazine, Merry Christmas.



Our cover picture shows some of the Over 55's work party who put in a morning's tree decorating and bauble dangling to make the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne ready for the village's Christmas parties.



ELMSWELL ART CLUB



Our pictures this month hark back to quite different times. The Undercroft of Battle Abbey was painted in watercolour by a recently joined member Ann Smith, from an original shown in a Teach Yourself painting book. Guillaume, duc de Normandie decided, in 1066, with a group of friends to hop on a ferry and nip across La Manche to that delightful English holiday resort, Hastings and do battle with King Harold in order to start the line of Norman kings. He marched inland a few miles to what is now known as Battle and proceeded on October 14th to knock seven bells out of Harold and his army, in the process some 10,000 souls were killed. Some battle! Poor old Harold who had only been king since January 6th finished with an arrow in his eye, he clearly didn't see that one coming! At this point Guillaume rightly changed his nom de guerre to William the Conquerer. In those long gone days there was no such thing as video, Netflix, e-mail, 24 hour news coverage and such like, that we so easily take for granted, we have to go to Bayeux to see what

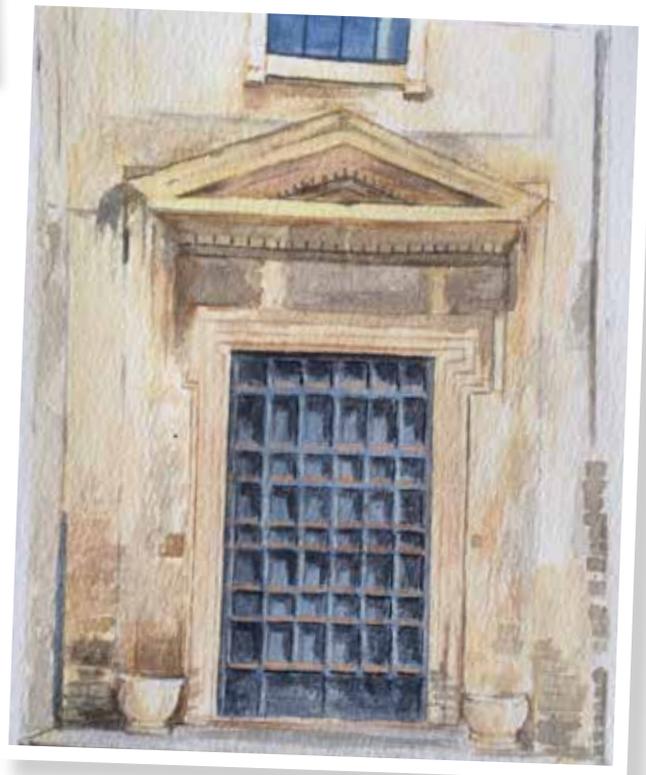
happened, which is a bit of a stitch up! William was so upset with the carnage and huge death toll that he built an Abbey on the exact spot where the English king had died. He absolutely insisted that it should be built exactly where the king had fallen, even though this presented the construction team with massive problems due to the slope and lay of the land. Only parts of the original Abbey remain and it is now a private school. What has all this to do with art and painting? These old abbeys, churches, castles and buildings have provided such magnificent inspirations for artists over millennia, to create interesting and memorable paintings for all to enjoy. I have no idea how old the Sicilian doorway and entrance is in Jo Hale's watercolour painting. This was from a series of photographs taken by Jo on a recent holiday, clearly there is some age there. Not the sort of doorway you get on modern estate houses nowadays!

May I take this opportunity from all at Elmswell Art Club to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and happy and healthy New Year.

John Welford 01359 240166

**To my mind one does not put oneself in the past,
one only adds a new link.**

Paul Cezanne



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

This month the club welcomed Mr. Parfitt to speak to us about his recent trip to Russia. He went on a cruise from Moscow to St. Petersburg. The ship was called the Volga Dream and only eighty eight passengers aboard. They were looked after very well with lovely food and good entertainment.

Moscow is a city of thirteen million people and like so many places, lots of traffic and plenty of apartment blocks. Lunch was on the eighty fourth floor in a hotel which gave a wonderful view of the city. St. Basils Cathedral was built in 1546 for Ivan the Terrible and its domes lead to a series of small chapels. Red square and the

Kremlin were visited and we were able to see the enormous area the square covers.

On the journey along the Volga, other churches were visited. The Church of Transfiguration had twenty two domes which are made of wood.

When they reached St. Petersburg they enjoyed a cruise on the canal. The Winter Palace, also known as the Hermitage was visited. It is the second biggest museum in the world. It is fifteen miles and to see everything would take eight years! The Faberge Museum was visited. It contains nine Faberge eggs. One was commissioned every year for the Czar's wife.

Sixty five were made and the whereabouts of fifty seven are known.

A wealthy man paid a hundred million for the nine eggs to be returned to Russia.

We thank Mr. Parfitt for an interesting talk.

Members were reminded of the trip to Scotsdale on November 27th.

Our final meeting of the year is our Christmas lunch on 3rd December.

New members are always welcome.

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On Thursday 14 November, our speaker was Sarah Doig; the topic of her talk was 'The Rise and Decline of Victorian Reading Rooms'. In the mid 19th Century there were lots of these small buildings being built, sometimes by rich landowners, as an alternative to the public house being a meeting place for the men of the village. Most of them had copies of the local newspapers and the Parish Magazine for the men to read. The small building now occupied by the local Veterinary Practice in Elmswell was originally built as a Reading Room.

In the cities and towns these buildings were called Mechanics Institutes and the Ipswich Institute still stands in Tavern Street. Dr George Birkbeck was the founder of the Mechanics Institutes; he was a

physician, academic, pioneer of adult education and a Quaker philanthropist. The Rooms built in villages were founded either by the local clergyman or the Lord of the Manor and were imposed on the local male population. In some villages the local landowner provided Working Men's Clubs as at Lackford, Cavenham and West Stow.

Some of the Reading Rooms encouraged the playing of games such as Quoits (eg Elmswell and Haughley) as well as lending libraries. In 1875 the Suffolk Village Club and Reading Room Association was formed. By the early 20th Century, as other diversions appeared the Reading Room gradually declined and the buildings became schoolrooms, village halls or private houses. This was as usual an interesting talk

from Sarah, who had several of her books about Suffolk for sale.

The Christmas meeting will be held on Thursday December 14th. We were reminded that tickets for this meeting were still on sale – there are now just a few remaining, at £4 for members and £6 for non-members and visitors. Entertainment by Bristol Fashion, a local folk group.

Our meetings take place in the Chamberlayne Hall at the Blackbourne Centre, Elmswell on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. For further information, our website is www.elmswell-history.org.uk or telephone our Secretary Stella Chamberlain 01359-242601.

ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

Elmswell Garden Club met in the Baden Powell Room at the Blackbourne for the last time of 2019. As is custom, this meeting began with an Annual General Meeting reviewing the highlights of the year and reporting upon the what is in store in 2020.

Nick Chamberlin led the meeting, inviting Janet Sparrow to present the minutes of the 2018 AGM. The minutes were approved unanimously. It was noted that after fifteen loyal years of service to the Gardening Club Janet will be stepping down as Secretary. Nick, in his capacity as Treasurer reported that the financial situation of the Club was good, but it would be prudent management to increase the subs £1.00 to cover higher costs in the new year. This was agreed with two dissensions recorded. Nick thanked everyone for their help in keeping the Station Flowers looking so good, commenting that the new planters have been a very good investment. The Crown Mill Bench has been in place for almost a year and is well used by villagers waiting at the station gates. During the year we received donations to enable us to be even more proactive in the village and this will be a matter of debate for the Committee in the new year. The club has benefitted from the work of Gay Beer as Programme Secretary who ensured

that invited speakers were with us each month enabling the smooth running of the meetings. Gay and David will not be with us in February, passing the 2020 programme on to Annie Robinson and Hilary Foster to manage.

Nick thanked the Committee for their hard work during the year, acknowledging the contribution of Janet, Gay, Margaret and Jill in particular as they step down. It is hoped that new people will come forward to take their place in the new year. The Committee was duly appointed for 2020 from those willing to continue in office. This concluded the formal part of the evening.

Such evenings are not just a matter of looking back but also of looking forward and to this end Derek Rust, with the committee backing put forward a proposal to the Parish Council to seek approval to erect a Christmas Tree on the Crown Mill site in 2020. Parish Councillors agreed to support in principle such a project and have asked us to present more details. It was encouraging to read in last month's Newsletter that the Parish Council appreciate the work of Elmswell Gardening Club in and around the village. An annual Christmas Tree will be another way that we can show our commitment to village life. Watch this space!

In October Andrew Brogan judged the entries for

the annual competition – 'Exotic Unique, Unusual'. Seven members took part and Brenda Begg, the winner of 2018 presented the trophy to Juliet Walker as the worthy winner for 2019. All who took part were thanked, as Andrew had found it very difficult to decide the winner.

The evening continued with Gay and David Beer sharing a presentation of the 'The delights of Madeira'. A place that many people visit to take in the beautiful flora and fauna as well as breathtaking views seen from all parts of the island. Refreshments provided by the committee finished the evening giving members a time to chat before the doors closed on the Clubs activities for 2019. Thank you to everyone who has supported EGC this year. We look forward to welcoming you back in February 2020 alongside new friends who want to know more about gardening. Maybe new residents who have a garden to plan and do not know where to start will look with interest at the monthly meetings published in the Newsletter Diary. Do have a look and make a note of what interests you.

If you require further information about Elmswell Gardening Club, please contact **Nick, on 01359 242601 or Catherine 01359 242172.** We hope to see you in 2020.

ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

November drew to a close with a visit to the Thursford Xmas Spectacular which was performed to a full house and it gets better every year. Thursday November 28th featured a concert by Norton Salvation Army Band and Songsters, Our final event for 2019 is our Xmas Party on December 7th with catering by Amy Cross and her team followed by entertainment by Pat James.

Meetings will resume on February 20th 2020 with a varied programme which may appear in part in the whats on section of the 2020 newsletter

It only leaves me to wish all my members committee and friends a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2020

Diann (241002)

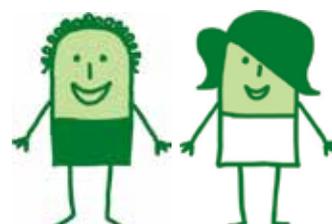


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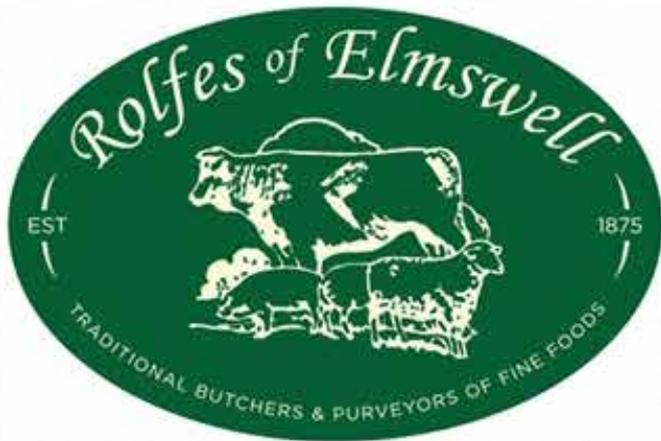
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Merry Christmas!*

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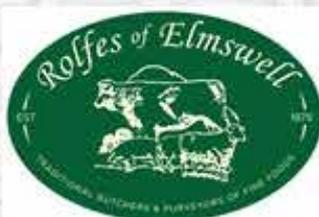
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ELMSWHEELIANS 2019

Just a reminder that our next outing will be our last of the year, and our now traditional pre-Christmas ride, on Sunday 8th December - a morning ride - not a big mileage - 10 miles approx. - starting at 11.00 a.m. - finishing at "The Fox" for some seasonal cheer.

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.

As always the ride will start from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell.
Contact : Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell.
Tel : 01359 240908



ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

This December we are offering a drop in space to the community for free hot drink, free books (choice from our for sale trolley) and free festive nibbles of mince pies and satsumas. The library could become a meeting place for people to chat and relax away from the hustle and bustle of the festive period or simply see what our library can offer while you enjoy a hot drink. This is kindly supported by Elmswell Co-op.

The community boards donated by Elmswell Library Friends (ELF) have space for community events and groups to display posters. If you have any posters you would like to display come into the library and drop them off. If you would like to advertise paid for non-community events we can display them for 50p per week.

If you enjoyed the Summer Reading Challenge there is an online Winter Mini Reading Challenge. This runs from 2nd December to 13th January. To take part, children simply read three books of their choice over the winter period, then add each book to their Challenge website profile and leave a short book review. You can access the website either from home or via the computers in the library and once completed you can come to the library and print off your certificate for free.

We hope to see you soon,

Miles Row, Elmswell Library Manager

What's on at Elmswell Library?

Suffolk Libraries offer a wide range of books, audiobooks, DVDs, internet access, printing and various eLibrary services. We also have a range of regular community events. We'd love to see you - please pop in and take a good book home.

Baby Bounce

We are in the process of getting a volunteer in place for Baby Bounce so watch this space. If you would like us to get in touch with you when Baby Bounce session start pop in and let us know.

The Keep in Touch Community Café

Wednesday 11th December 10.00am at the Fox, followed by a Christmas Lunch

Lego Club

11.00am - 12.00 noon every Sunday

Adult Colouring

6.00pm - 7.00pm every Tuesday

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'Saving money on winter bills'

CITIZENS ADVICE

I live with my two children and partner in a small semi-detached house. During the winter we use more heating and electricity as we're home more. Do you have any tips on how I can keep the cost of my energy down during the winter?

There are a few things you can do to save some money during the winter period. Check when your energy contract is due to expire. If you're at the end of your contract use [energy compare](#) on the Citizens Advice website to see if you could save money by switching supplier or tariff.

If you're on a prepayment meter you could save money by replacing your meter with one that lets you pay after using energy rather than in advance. Most suppliers won't charge you for removing a prepayment meter, though many will run a credit check or ask you for a deposit.

You may also be eligible for certain [grants and benefits](#). These could include Warm Home discount, help with energy debt or money towards insulation. If you're struggling to afford your energy bills, contact Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk for a free appointment to check you are receiving everything you are entitled to.

Here's a few practical tips to help keep costs down:

1. Using a timer for your heating, lowering your thermostat and using radiator valve controls could save you over £100 per year
2. Changing light bulbs to an energy-efficient one could save £50 over the lifetime of the bulb
3. Turn appliances off standby mode to save around £30 a year
4. Seal cracks in floors, skirting boards and add draft excluders to letterboxes, doors and windows.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, 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 midsuffolkcab.org.uk.



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Wishing you every blessing this Christmas!

Firstly, let's remind everyone of our Christmas-related services and events, all at St John's unless stated otherwise:

- Sun 15 Dec 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight
- Wed 18 Dec 7:00pm Carol Singing on green (meet by the village sign near the train station)
- Tue 24 Dec 3:30pm Messy Nativity – children's carol service.
- Tue 24 Dec 11:00pm Late Night Carols – please note earlier start time of 11:00pm.
- Wed 25 Dec 10:00am Christmas Day Celebration

We hope that this Christmas season is marvellous for you... but we understand that festive celebrations are not always happy occasions to for all, if you want to talk, we are here to listen.



November-recap...

November was another lovely month at St John's. We hosted the Remembrance Service and it was wonderful to have some Beavers, Cubs and Scouts join us with their leaders for this special occasion.

We held our annual Christmas Fair at the Blackbourne; a great afternoon with a variety of craft and other stalls, children's games, Christingles, café and tombolas – lots of fun!!!

Thank you so much for all your support and our wonderful volunteers who made this possible! Our November Messy Church also began to look towards Christmas as we thought about the birth of John the Baptist. We ended the month with a ladies craft brunch where we made Christmas-themed origami paper crafts – everyone enjoyed a lovely morning.



And so this is Christmas...

As we all know Christmas can become so busy, we find ourselves with no time to think or reflect on why we celebrate this most wonderful time of the year. At St John's we are looking forward

to going back to the birth of that special baby boy in Bethlehem. Born into an occupied nation, where the threat of war and violence was ever present, he came to bring peace. Not just peace for the people back then, but peace and hope for everyone in every age. Jesus came to make God known to us and through his teaching, death on a cross and resurrection, Jesus became the hope and solution for our deepest longings and needs. This Christmas, please don't let the manic busyness get in the way of the reason for the season. Spend a time thinking about what it all means. At St John's we believe there is hope for us all and his name is Jesus.



Why not come along to one of our December services? Details are here:

Sunday 1st December

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

Sunday 8th December

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

Sunday 15th December

- 9:30am Breakfast Church (breakfast from 9am)
- 11:00am Holy Communion
- 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 22nd December

- 10:30am Holy Communion

Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve

- 3:30pm Messy Nativity ~ Children's Carol Service
- 11:00pm Late Night Communion (BCP)

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

- 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10:00am Christmas All Age Celebration

Sunday 29th December

- 10:30am Informal Communion (all age)



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. For the Winter Months the lights will be on between 5.30 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5. Please make cheques payable to

"ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL". THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the floodlighting this year, and Seasons Greetings to all.

NOVEMBER 2019 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 20 in memory of Hector Francis, who died 20th November 1988. Loved always, Ruth & family.

DECEMBER 2019

- 3 in loving memory of Reginald Bloomfield.
- 8 in loving memory of my parents Dennis (Jock) and Daphne Harvey, and my grandmother Ellen (Nellie) Hood. "Always in my thoughts". xx.
- 10 in memory of Ray Borrett.
- 16 Ken Catchpole. "In the Lord's keeping for twenty five years. In our thoughts and hearts for ever". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 23 Ivy Hopper. "Treasured memories of my dear mum, sadly missed." Sally & Alan. xx.
- 23 Revd. Noel Clarke - remembered with love on his Birthday.
- 24 in memory of Evelyn and Roy Clark.
- 24 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas, George and Rene Stiff. "Miss you. God bless" Louise & Brian. x.
- 25 in memory of Mark & Andrew Jones. "Always in our thoughts". Mum & Dad.
- 25 Christmas. Ken Catchpole. Dear Husband, Dadda, and Grandad. Also, dear In-Laws and Grandparents, Charles and Ivy. "The special, special Christmases will not return, when we were all together, but with all the love in our hearts will always stay for ever". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 25 precious memories of Evelyn Simpson, much loved and missed by all the family.
- 25 in loving memory of Hugh & Dora Handyside. xx.
- 25 in loving memory of Mary Eveline Skinner. Tony & Margaret. xx.
- 25 Hopper. Remembering my dear mum & dad, IVY & DENNIS, and twin brother DAVID, at Christmas. Sally & Alan. xxx.
- 25 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas, George and Rene Stiff. "Miss you. God bless". Louise & Brian. x.
- 25 in memory of a dear Mum and Dad, George and Rene Stiff. Monica, Philip and family. x.
- 26 in loving memory of Hugh & Dora Handyside. xx.
- 26 in loving memory of Mary Eveline Skinner. Tony & Margaret. xx.
- 30 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 31 in loving memory of Duncan Wardrop, on this, his Birthday. "Loved and remembered every day". Love, Alexandra, Douglas, Amy and Teddy. xxxx.

All bookings and payments please to :- Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest: Rev. Ioan Sandor, 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

By the time you read this we will be in the season of Advent which is the time of year when Christians contemplate what it meant for Jesus to come to earth as a baby over 2000 years ago. Are you thinking about Jesus in the lead up to Christmas or just about having a good time? The Christmas story, like many of the events recorded in the Bible shows that God uses the most unlikely people in the most unusual circumstances to achieve his aims. At Christmas it was an unmarried couple who were chosen as earthly parents for the Son of God on earth; shepherds (who were the lowest of the low in Jewish society) and foreign astrologers were key players in welcoming Jesus to this earth. Lastly, Israel at the time had a puppet King under the Romans (Herod) who stamped around in vindictive power while the King of kings (Jesus) was vulnerable at birth and at death and preached a gospel of servanthood and humility. Join us at any of our events in December to find out more about looking out for the REAL Jesus.



The Ladies Friendship Group annual Nosh 'n' Natter takes place on Monday 2nd December to which all are welcome (men as well). There will be a fantastic meal as well as high quality music from the Musicology Choir. This is at 7.00pm. Telephone Margaret on 241541 if you would like to come although you may not see this until after this date!!

Food & Friends on Thursday December 12th at midday – for the older folk – a chance to meet other people and enjoy a Christmas meal with all the trimmings, all for a suggested donation of £7.00. Places are limited so phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place. We will conclude by singing a few Carols with a short epilogue from Stephen.



On Wednesday December 18th Christians Together in Elmwell are again holding Carols on the Green at Crown Mill at 7pm accompanied by some of Norton Salvation Army Band. Do come along and join us in a good sing. Free mince pies and coffee at the Baptist chapel afterwards.

We are holding our annual **Carols by Candlelight** on **Tuesday December 24th at 5.00pm**, come and experience the unique atmosphere created by over 80 candles lighting the chapel and get your Christmas off to the perfect start. Coffee, tea and more mince pies to follow. For those who don't like coming out in the dark (and anybody else who'd like to come!) we will have Christmas Praise at 10.30am on Sunday December 22nd and more carols on Sunday December 29th.

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

- Dec 1st Rev. Barbara Challis – inc Communion
- Dec 8th Stephen Spurgeon (Sunday Morning Together)
- Dec 15th Rev. David Harper
- Dec 22nd Stephen Spurgeon – Christmas Praise
- Dec 24th **5.00pm Carols by Candlelight led by Stephen Spurgeon**
- Dec 29th Stephen Horrex
- Jan 5th Stephen Spurgeon - inc Communion

Just in case you don't read your January newsletter quickly enough, the Ladies Friendship Group meets again on January 6th at 7.45pm for another of Jenny's Surprise Evenings. All ladies welcome. Phone Margaret on 241541 for more details.

Visit our website at www.elmwellbaptist.org.uk

It is our prayer that you come to know Jesus Christ as your Saviour and friend during the festive season and consequently have a REAL Happy Christmas!!

Tony



POPPY APPEAL

Not quite all the figures are to hand at the time of writing but this year's Poppy Appeal raised almost £4000. This sum has been forwarded to appeal headquarters. Thanks are due to all those people who gave so generously and to those who collected and to all the businesses who put our collecting cans. As always the welfare of our ex service personnel and their families is an ongoing commitment even when the international situation is relatively quiet.

I have been organising the appeal in the village for over 20 years and I feel that it is now time to pass the task on to someone else. Some work is involved mainly between July and November and there is some equipment to look after (mainly collecting boxes and spare stock). I am quite willing to guide any volunteer and help them for next year and explain what is involved. If you are interested please get in touch with me on 01449 257039 or the Parish Clerk.

Once again many thanks to everyone for this year's total.

Tony Chaplin



**Christmas 2019
at St John's Elmwell**

Sunday 15th December 6:30pm
Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 24th December 3:30pm
Messy Nativity (Children's Carol Service)

Tuesday 24th December 11:00pm
Late Night Communion (please note start time)

Wednesday 25th December 10:00am
Christmas Day Celebration!

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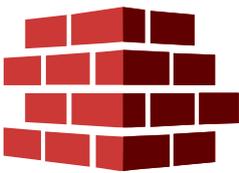


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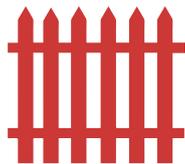
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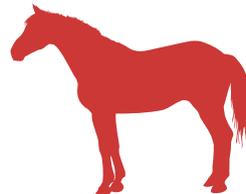
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Elmswell Baby and Toddler Group



ELMSWELL BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We have had a busy month of November at Elmswell baby and toddler group including making firework glitter pictures, poppy potato prints and scarecrows!

The group is held in the main hall of the Blackbourne community centre every Monday and Wednesday. We meet from 1000-1130 and have a different variety of activities for toddlers to explore such as train tracks, cars, dinosaurs, dolls, play kitchen, work bench, dress up, see saws, several ride on toys, a slide, a trampoline, and much more! For babies, we have a large soft mat area to wiggle I about on, with many baby toys to keep them entertained. We have a snack time (included in the entry fee) for your child, as well as tea/coffee and a biscuit for the adults (also included in the entry fee!).

Every week we have a different craft, and during December we will have a variety of Christmas activities for your child to get stuck into, which will all be included in your entry fee.

Our friendly team of committee members and helpers are always happy to welcome you - if you haven't visited before and fancy seeing if you like it, your first session is free, so do come along and give it a try!

We charge only £1 entry per child, with any additional children/adults at 50p (additional siblings 6 months or younger are free).

We are a volunteer run group, and are currently desperately in need of helpers, mainly with serving hot drinks during snack time, assisting with the craft, and our 5 minute song time at the end. We are a friendly, sociable group, and if anyone in the local community has a spare few minutes to spare to help us with even just one of those things, you would be most welcome and greatly appreciated.

Elmswell baby and toddler group can be contacted on elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com or just pop along for a chat.

STREET NAMES



The naming of streets in new developments is the responsibility of the District or Borough Council who ensure that they are not confusing or, particularly in our current very sensitive and delicate times, 'inappropriate'.

Suggestions are invited from town & parish councils. In Elmswell, the Council seeks guidance from the Village Recorder who has reference to the earliest reliable documentation of the names of the fields and holdings which once made up our parish – the 1841 Tithe Map. This document was drawn up following the 1836 Commutation Act which allowed the Church to collect its 'tithes', effectively a 10% tax on the produce from each landowner, in money rather than in actual produce.

Our Recorder's coloured-up version of the section of the map around where the proposed new houses at Borley Crescent are to be built is shown here. The current road names are inked in, along with some modern-day major reference points.

From this are derived the names accepted by the Parish Council at their last meeting, being Broom Meadow, Long Gilberts and Glebe Close. Similar names in the village which have come from this process include Cresmedow Way, Malting Field and Upper Crossway.

When there are no obvious options, a name is selected which echoes local vernacular terms, often with agricultural connections. Here Council have gone for Gleaners' Way. Other such names in the village include Paigle Close, a reference to the cowslips or oxslips which would have grown in the meadow there. More modern references are remembered in Crown Mill, where the Crown beer house once stood and Blacksmith's Way recalling the long standing link with Mr Nunn, who plied his trade from the forge there in a business that eventually grew into Thurlow Nunn which still thrives elsewhere in East Anglia.

NB The tithe map is available to view on the Elmswell History Group website.

The current Village Recorder is keen to hand on the role. It is very much one which can be shaped to suit the inclinations and interests of the incumbent with no fixed duties.

As a member of the Suffolk Local History Council Recorders' Scheme there is help, guidance and support available. An Information Pack is available to be viewed on line, or be in touch with the Parish Clerk's office on 244134, clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



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Email: bookings@bsevc.co.uk



NEW TRAINS – NEW PROBLEMS

The Ipswich-Cambridge line is one of the busiest rail routes in the region – recent overcrowding has resulted when single-carriage trains have been used as the changeover of rolling stock has been in process. Elmswell passengers have suffered!

But, finally, shiny new four-car Stadler trains have begun to replace the old ones which are being shunted off for a quieter life in Wales and Scotland. The new carriages have more seats, plug & USB sockets, free and fast Wi-Fi, air conditioning, improved accessibility and passenger information screens. They offer much greener operations with dual-fuel diesel or electricity and the ‘intercity quality’ should attract disillusioned commuters back from using their cars in frustration at the previous sad service.

This being a matter connected with the UK railway system there is, of course, a UK railways flaw. The trains are too long for some of the platforms. Including Elmswell.

‘Not a problem’, the bright ones at the front of the class will assert, ‘simply don’t open the doors on the carriages that stick out beyond the platform, thus preventing passengers from stepping blithely out for a 3ft (1m) drop onto a bed of granite chippings’.

‘Not that easy’, responds the relevant UK railways customer relations operative. ‘The door button opens all the doors and we can’t make it only open the safe ones’.

This will, of course, be sorted out by The IT Department. In the meantime, the following passenger announcement maintains:

Going from Elmswell towards Thurston the train is a bus.

Luckily, local passengers’ interests are well represented by MARPA – the Mid Anglia Rail Passenger Association (contact them and join via secretary@marpa.org.uk).

They confirm that:

For rail users at Elmswell not aware of temporary arrangements, from 25th November, weekdays only, five trains per day towards Stowmarket & Ipswich are replaced by a coach service to Stowmarket - services at 0938, 1238, 1538, 1838 & 2138 are replaced by a coach leaving Elmswell AT 17 MINUTES PAST THE HOUR.

Services towards Bury & Cambridge are as normal.



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My name is Claire Masson and I live in Ashfield Road. I'm a teacher at Great Whelnetham Primary school, near Bury. I've been offered a place to volunteer on an International Teacher Training programme for 2 weeks next August with a charity called Street Child.

Your support for this project would be very welcome.

This is the link to my fund raising page:

<https://streetchild.everydayhero.com/uk/please-help>



MIND THE GAP!

GIVE BEFORE 4TH JANUARY AND YOUR DONATION TO STREET CHILD'S 'MIND THE GAP' APPEAL WILL BE DOUBLED BY THE UK GOVERNMENT UP TO £2 MILLION.

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Street Child works with local partners to deliver great value, simple and sustainable solutions to provide more children with access to education.

HERE'S HOW YOUR DONATION TO STREET CHILD'S 'MIND THE GAP' CAMPAIGN WILL HAVE DOUBLE THE IMPACT WITH MATCH FUNDING FROM THE UK GOVERNMENT:

£7.50 DOUBLED TO £15 COVERS THE SCHOOL FEES OF A CHILD.

£15 DOUBLED TO £30 COVERS THE SCHOOL FEES, UNIFORM AND LEARNING MATERIALS FOR A CHILD.

£30 DOUBLED TO £60 PROVIDES A FAMILY WITH A BUSINESS GRANT AND TRAINING.

GIVE BEFORE 4TH JANUARY AND YOUR DONATION TO STREET CHILD'S 'MIND THE GAP' APPEAL WILL BE DOUBLED BY THE UK GOVERNMENT UP TO £2 MILLION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

WWW.STREET-CHILD.CO.UK



THE PROGRAMME

We are calling on UK teachers to support our teacher training programmes in Sierra Leone, Uganda and Sri Lanka this summer.

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STREET CHILD

Street Child believes that education is a fundamental right and achieving universal basic education is the single greatest step that can be taken towards eliminating the inequality gap and ultimately global poverty.

We work with local partners on low-cost, sustainable solutions. Since 2008 Street Child has to date supported over 250,000 children into education and supported over 25,000 families to set up businesses so they can afford the cost of educating their children long-term.

We have grown from our first project in rural Sierra Leone to now working in 12 countries worldwide. Volunteers have played a crucial part in making this happen by providing essential support to our in-country teams and partners.



INTERESTED?

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Managers Write Up – First Team

1st team ended October with a disappointing loss to kesgrave who hadn't lost a game when we played them. They went 2-0 up we then managed to get back to 2-1 with a goal from Ash Reilly but unfortunately we couldn't find the net again after that and lost the game 3-1

On the 9th we welcomed witnessham to blackbourne knowing that we had to take all 3 points from this game the lads were buzzing and did not dissapoint. We completely out battled and out played witnessham and won 4-1 goals coming from Josh Curtis x1, Tom Fisher x1 and Ryan Mannell x2

Our game on the 16th vs occold unfortunately had to be called off as we try to keep blackbourne in a good state for the rest of the season.

On to the 23rd we made the hour and a half journey away to hawthorn United from the lowestoft league. The Suffolk primary cup is a competition we are hoping to do very well in and we did not dissapoint in our first game.

Despite only taking 12 players with us we managed to come away with a 13-1 win which could of easily been more. Goal scorers for elmswell were Will Crocker x1, Will Gudgeon x1, Ryan Jolly x1 (goal of the game), Matt Lucas x1, Matt Last x2, Jed Hughes x3 and top goal scorer for the club Ryan mannell x4

We now have a run of away games but hope to see some new faces up blackbourne when we return in the new year to face wortham on the 4th of Jan



Will Crocker

Manager

07814 240840

wjcpainters@hotmail.co.uk

Jed Hughes

Manager

07854 244177



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RESULTS

First team results

9/11 EFC 4 v 1 WHITNESHAM

23/11 HAWTHORN 1 v 13 EFC

Reserves results

2/11 EFC RES 0 v 4 WALSHAM "A"

16/11 CLAYDON "A" 2 v 0 EFC RES



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Managers Write Up – Reserves

November turned out to be a frustrating month for the reserves with several no-game weeks, frustrating results on the pitch and disappointing departures off it. On the 2nd, we welcomed early season title contenders Walsham Le Willows 'A' to Blackbourn, fresh off their first defeat of the season and in the mood for a comeback. Our selection was thrown awry days before the match, winger-cum-forward Damian Fisk announcing he would be leaving the club to join the Walsham 'B' side. Despite the setback, we very nearly blew away our opposition in the early minutes, squandering chances in a dominant opening. Walsham soon established control however and were gifted a route into the match, a defensive mix-up seeing probably our most consistent performer this season, Nathan Baird, head unchallenged past his own keeper. The second half started much like the first, despite peppering the opposition goal we couldn't find the back of the net. The final score of 4-0 to the visitors perhaps flattering them somewhat, especially considering the three own goals gifted them. Two weeks later we took a short trip down the A14 to Claydon 'A', looking to reignite the early season form. The signs were positive as we again shot out of the blocks and created a hatful of chances in the first half. Chris Couves, a recent addition from the first team setup, and Jack Macdonald giving the Claydon full backs a day to forget as they repeatedly exploited space in behind. Our shooting boots seemed to be missing though, bad luck and good goalkeeping combining to keep the ball out of the net again. Despite falling to a 2-0 defeat, the biggest disappointment of the day came with the first half injury to Nathan Baird. He is expected to require a lengthy spell on the side lines after landing awkwardly on his ankle, we wish him a swift recovery and look forward to welcoming him back in the new year.

Chris Edmonds

Manager
07398 251908
edddd101@gmail.com

Richard Adlington

Assistant Manager
07875 590501
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FIXTURES

- 30/11 WORTHAM V EFC FIRST
- EFC RES V UFFORD SPORT RES
- 7/12. WALSHAM "A" v EFC RES
- 14/12. HOPE CHURCH V EFC FIRST
- EFC RES V GRUNDISBURGH RES
- 1/4. EFC FIRST V IPSWICH EXILES
- HALESWORTH TOWN V EFC RESERVES



JOHN REED, ROGER DALBY AND ALISON PRINCE



We mark the passing of 3 individuals who, in their different ways, and to varying degrees, made a significant contribution to our community through their links with the Elmswell Amenities Association.

John Reed steered the Association towards the 20th Century. He became Chairman when the Memorial Hall on Cooks Road was the sole community asset at a time when the village was in turmoil and at loggerheads with the County Council which had just taken away the village playing field to build Oxer Close and the school. John was a charming bruiser, a battler against the bureaucrats...famously those bureaucrats who tried to steer Stowmarket Tennis Club out of town to allow Asda to build their supermarket. His dogged persistence and indomitable energy finally won the club the much more central site they now enjoy and where he continued to improve and innovate, including the provision of the 'winter dome' – a first for the UK and allowing tennis to be played all year round. In Elmswell he moulded the Amenities into a forward-thinking and progressive body which has been key to the development of the exemplary social provision we now enjoy at Blackbourne, the Memorial Library and, soon, Wesley. His example inspired a few key individuals to realise that the future would bring new challenges and that our growing community would need to face them with the energy, self-belief and commitment that John himself showed. He would be keen to deny it, but his thumbprint is all over the proposals for the Wesley, and his can-do philosophy continues to inform thinking such as the Greene King site proposals. In both his business and community life, John never knew failure. Often things didn't go well. He took note and tried again with limitless gusto. Even ElmsFest...son of The Autumn Fayre, itself of the of the 'Back to School Fair' and, many moons ago the Elmswell Mayday Fair. John's chairing of those early fair committee meetings was a combination of intelligent bravado and of his hospitality at Tothill House where discussions lasted long into the night and memories struggled in the morning. But the events happened very successfully and grew long after John had left them to others – he had shown us how to do it. John died aged 86 on 22nd October.



John as quizmaster for the Village Quiz at Blackbourne in 1999.



Roger Dalby By sad coincidence, one of the early Amenities Association pioneers who learned at John's feet, Roger Dalby, died 3 days earlier on 19th October aged 72. Roger was a banker who liked a good time and who loaned his expertise and energies to various village groups as treasurer, but notably as the Association's Treasurer at the Autumn Fayres where he would closet himself in a caravan on the field – this before Blackbourne was built - and count and calculate and dole out payments to performers whilst taking fees from the stallholders before disappearing for a 2 day purdah to emerge with a bottom line of income over expenditure, several thousand pounds impeccably tabulated and accounted for.

Alison Prince Another 'Fayre' connection is with Alison Prince who lived at Hill Farm in Elmswell for some 8 years trying out self-sufficiency *a la* 'The Good Life' whilst writing over 70 adult and Children's books, many of which she illustrated herself. In 1995 she shared the Guardian Children's Fiction Award with Philip Pullman, whose 'His Dark Materials' trilogy is currently running on TV. Alison involved herself in the village to the extent that she produced the best Fayre poster ever – her skilled freehand cartoon sketches around the border making for a piece of poster art which would seem to have been lost. There was a facsimile, seen here, produced in 1992 by a young local artist, but Alison's original set the standard. Alison died on October 12th aged 88.





ELMSWELL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



By way of an update on the current position regarding Elmswell's Neighbourhood Plan, below is an extract from the Parish Clerk's Report to the November Parish Council Meeting.

In discussion with Cllrs Pallett and Mansel, as Chairs of Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Group respectively, it has been suggested that a report on the current limbo in which the Elmswell Neighbourhood development Plan sits is appropriate, including some of the reasons behind the clear lack of progress and outlining the current position.

I had been involved in the original 1990 Village Appraisal (later updated by a team led by Mike Schofield) and the production of the Elmswell Village Plan in 2006. I was asked, in September 2011, *'in consultation with individuals and other agencies as appropriate, to re-draw the Elmswell Village Plan in a loose-leaf format to accommodate future updating in-house.'* The 33 member Working Group which thus emerged from across the whole community spectrum to take the process forward was stopped in its tracks by Mid Suffolk's contention that the way forward, courtesy of the 2011 Localism Act, was a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NP). Elmswell duly changed horses and became the first community in the District to begin the NP process, having had a head start by virtue of the now defunct Village Plan.

There is no doubt, and little suggestion otherwise from Mid Suffolk, that the District Council was on as steep a learning curve as were the Elmswell NP Group which was ill advised and poorly directed by District Council officers, wasting considerable time and much well-meaning effort across the community.

Nevertheless, progress was slowly made by way of a Housing Needs Survey, Traffic Surveys, the 3 Community Questionnaires and various consultation exercises. In an attempt to counter the poor original input from MSDC, Council appointed, in 2015, a consultant Planning practice, Urban Vision, for broad advice on the way forward. Subsequently, a more local firm offering specific Plan writing skills, Planning Direct, was appointed in 2017. Planning Direct produced some worthwhile results but very serious personal circumstance on the part of their NP specialist brought a sudden end to the arrangement.

Meanwhile, the free-for-all in Mid Suffolk (and many other Districts) consequent upon the lack of a 5 year housing land supply, meant that much of the basic thinking which had gone into the NP process was overtaken entirely by events and the moving targets of the NPPF made firm footing elusive. In other words, whilst we were deciding how much housing we would take and what facilities were needed to support the growth, the growth was dumped upon us, willy-nilly and with what is generally perceived to be only lip service to the supporting infrastructure. This aspect is widely shared – Thurston & Woolpit are in similar circumstances. Put simply, by the time a NP has defined acceptable parameters for development, the development has already happened.

The decisive extra element in Elmswell has been the Relief Road aspiration. For 20+ years

this has hovered as a desirable way to allow the village to grow. At every stage of the NP process it has been a major factor. However, as the creeping growth of large, unplanned housing developments has been forced upon Elmswell, the funding of a road scheme has become more problematic. An informed guess is that some 1500 houses would be needed to fund a road. As the new housing estates have crept in, we are faced with the option of a further 1500 houses on top of the 650 Permissions already determined. This seems untenable and unlikely to gain the approval of the village at the necessary Referendum stage of the NP. Contrary to popular belief, there is no central funding for projects such as an Elmswell Relief Road (see also Needham Market).

The current halt in proceedings is the result of what might be the last of the large off-plan development - 105 dwellings on School Road built on the land which would have provided the Relief Road route. This Application has been pending for several months. If it is granted, the Relief Road concept is, effectively, implausible without considering moving it further North up Ashfield Road along a vastly more expensive route.

Once the School Road application is determined, the NP group will resume the writing of a Plan and the best guess is that the lead time is 12 months.

STOP PRESS

As we go to press it seems that Mid Suffolk have delayed a decision on the crucial 105 house development at School Road (NB where the serious accident happened last week – see Parish Council Report – Ed.) until after the Election. It will be instructive to see how this can be made to work at the Church Road / School Road junction where it now seems that even SCC Highways have accepted that traffic lights are not an option! Also, how they deal with the fact that their own emerging Local Plan has the site allocated for just 50 dwellings plus a serviced site for a pre-school facility.

Mid Suffolk suggest that there might be alternative routes available for a future Relief Road. Once again, until the village knows that the original option is ruled out, it must hold back on suggesting if, and if so how and where, other development might best be accommodated.



Canine conflicts... our mention in the November edition of the ever-present problems caused by the few unreasonable and selfish dog owners who will not control their animals in public spaces and who deem it reasonable to leave their pets' foul excretions for others to clear up, brought several responses:

-  There are several versions of self-composting dog bins which the Council might consider...but it does pose the problem of how to get the raw material into the bin.
-  The earliest dog control law was passed in 1828 and the most recent in 2014. Still a massive problem, still several deaths of children each year from out-of-control, 'pets'.
-  Let's not mess about with dog mess! It can often carry toxocariasis from the roundworm present in many of these animals. Soil or sand etc which has been in contact with the faeces retains the disease for many months. If ingested by a small child (typically on the beach but Blackbourne and other play areas are just as possible) the infection is passed on. Toxocariasis often leads to child blindness.
-  Dagenham Council has just introduced DNA chipping and is requiring all 18,000 dogs in the Borough to be entered on their database – this in response to the successful prosecutions and subsequent prevention which this has produced elsewhere. We should lobby for this locally...the fines would pay for it!

KH

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



1,683 trees

At this time ten years ago we were sitting biting our fingernails wondering whether our bid to win the People's Millions competition would be successful or not. At stake was the very significant sum of £50,000 – the amount we needed to buy 4 acres of land at Lukeswood and plant hundreds of trees, making it a community woodland for the village. Months of work and planning had gone into drawing up the project plan, doing all the costings, applying for planning permission, and – not least – making the little film that would be broadcast on ITV. It can still be found on Youtube if you haven't seen it, or if you want to have another look. To win, we needed votes – lots of votes! – and everyone responded magnificently, so that in the end we won hands down and Lukeswood was ours.

It's hard to believe that ten years have passed since that exciting time, but if you do look back at our film, or at these photos from our archive, you can see that Lukeswood then was just an empty field. If you visit now you can see that it is very different. Ten years ago many people thought that while it was great to plant the trees, they wouldn't ever see the woodland. But a decade on, there it is – a maturing woodland. The four acres have now expanded to six and a half, and we have one acre of orchard trees. I wonder how it will look in another ten years' time?



And the 1,683 trees? That was the number of trees we promised to plant during our first year – one for every house in the village. That number was symbolic, of course, and since then has long been surpassed, but the aim was to give everyone a chance to plant a tree in their woodland (which lots of people did). Unless you have a very good memory indeed, I doubt that anyone would now be able to identify “their” tree. All those individual trees have disappeared into the greater organism, the woodland itself.



Millions of trees?

As we gear up towards the election, tree planting seems to have become a hot topic with all the political parties trying to outbid each other in the millions of trees they say they will plant if elected. Planting trees is now seen as an essential component of the fight against climate change. As one of the least forested countries in Europe, we have a lot of ground to make up. As well as capturing carbon, trees help to shield against pollution, provide shade in soaring temperatures, stabilise soil and river banks, and mitigate against flooding. We definitely need to plant more.

While our national politicians

are trading huge tree planting pledges, some of our local representatives seem to be heading in the opposite direction. It was disappointing to read in last month's Newsletter that our District Council has voted against increasing the tree canopy in our area or to support community tree planting projects. Inflated claims on one side, a vacuum on the other. At least we at ElmsWild kept our promise!

Will the millions of trees ever be planted? Has any thought been given to where and how they should be planted? What about provenance? It is only very recently that imported saplings planted in this country were found to be infected with ash die-back disease. Protection is another issue. A forest of plastic tree guards often ends up as a major source of pollution itself; often the guards are not removed, so break up into fragments, polluting our soil and water courses.

In our own modest tree planting efforts within the community we have encountered all these problems. It's not as easy as it sounds – just plant more trees. From our own observations at Lukeswood we can see that Nature does it better than we could ever hope to. In the one area where we have not planted any trees, there are plenty of trees growing strongly. They planted themselves, with seeds dropped from

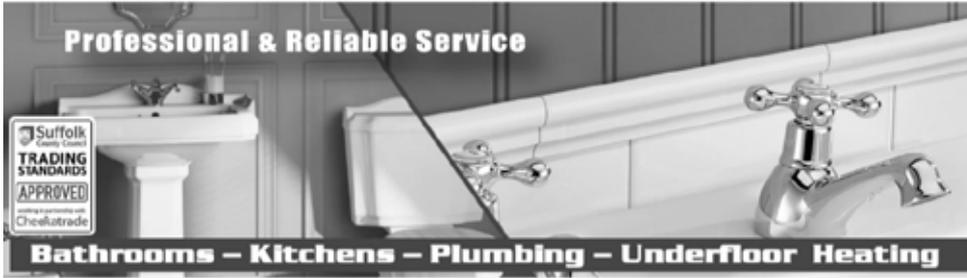
nearby mature trees, blown in, or cached by birds and animals. Even where we did plant saplings, the woodland is now beginning to take over, with seedlings popping up in unexpected places. These new trees don't need plastic guards, they have natural protection from bramble and other thorny shrubs. Whether you call it 'rewilding' or 'natural regeneration', it works and gives us hope for the future. So let's have more trees – yes, millions of them – but listen to the science and make sure it's done in a

sustainable way that will last many centuries into the future. We're going to need them.

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD FLOWERS

While much of nature is heading for deep hibernation during the winter months, we're planning for the next phase of our project. Having extended the mini-meadows beside the library and village sign on Crown Mill, we will be holding a community gardening session to extend the meadow at the Elmswell maze/labyrinth.

We need lots of hands to help lift turf and clear grass from the bricks that form the labyrinth. If you're available, we'd love to see you there! Bring gardening gloves and sturdy shoes, and a spade and fork if you have one. Otherwise, just bring yourself and we'll lend you a tool to get stuck in.

When: Saturday 18th January.

When: 10am til about 1pm.

Where: Green alongside Church Road, nearly opposite Lukeswood entrance.

We're also busy working on our plans to create a scattered orchard of native fruit trees around the village. With funding from Sarah Mansel's locality budget, we'll be buying native trees to plant and care for in little green patches located around the village. We're working with Mid Suffolk District Council, the Parish Council and other land owners to confirm which sites we can adopt, but look out for tree planting dates early next year.

Perhaps you have a fruit tree on your own property? If you do, and you'd be willing to share your harvest with villagers, please get in touch. We'd love to include private residences which are happy for villagers to scrimp from their front garden, or willing to pop a box of fruit at the end of their driveway.

You may have a patch of grass or public garden space in your street, which isn't doing much... if that's the case, we'd encourage you to chat to your neighbours and adopt the area. It's something that has worked well in Whatley Close, where an area of shrubs was hacked by an over-enthusiastic maintenance person. We all have to pass it daily, so we wanted it to look nice and provide habitats for wildlife.

I realised we could easily care for this little space, so I popped round to chat to each of my neighbours, inviting them to plant surplus plants there and to give them some sunflower seeds to start a sunflower competition. Over two years, we've reclaimed this space, with various neighbours planting herbs, a

climbing rose, an apple tree, bulbs, wildflower seeds and many, many sunflowers. We're lucky that the hollyhocks which grow in one of the local gardens have naturally colonised the bed too, bringing beautiful tall flowers.

Between myself and a few neighbours, we keep the whole bed weeded, watered and trimmed and enjoy a street-wide sunflower competition each year. It is such a simple little job, which takes hardly any time, but has brought us closer as a community.



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JAN IS ELMSWELL 2019 GOLF CHAMPION

Jan Sheridan won the annual Elmswell Golf Championship held at Stowmarket Golf Club on Friday September 20th 2019. The biggest mixed field ever of 35 players competed for the prestigious Club Noticeboard/ Falcon Trophy.

The weather was superb and the course was in excellent condition considering the lack of rain over the past few months.

Jan is the second lady winner of the event and won with a record breaking 40 points playing off 90% off her handicap which left her with 22 shots. Alan Crouch with 38 points was second with previous winner Dave Bicknell coming third with 37 points.

This year the event was again generously sponsored by The Elmswell Fox (thanks Jimmy)

Following the golf was the presentation dinner held at the golf club. When Jan received the trophy from last year's Champion James O'Doherty.

A delighted Jan thanked little Dave Overman and his wife Irene for organising this successful event. This was the 17th year for this event which is open to all golfers that live within the Elmswell postal district and past winners of the event. Next year's event will take place at Stowmarket Golf Club on Friday 18th September 2020

RESULTS:

1st	Jan Sheridan	40 points
2nd	Alan Crouch	38
3rd	Dave Bicknell	37
4th	Ray Sheridan	35
5th	Kevin Hollings	35





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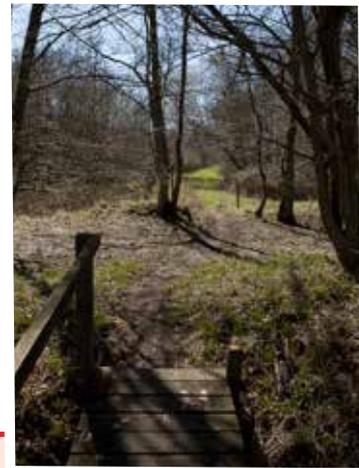
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FOOTPATH WALK

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

NEW YEAR'S DAY
beginning at 11.00 am from the village sign
Also the regular monthly walk will
take place on 19th January

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



Christmas

gingerbread



reindeer



tree



decorations



stocking

Santa Claus

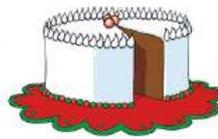


snowman



gift

cake



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Melted Snowman Cookies

Ingredients:

- 200g Fondant Icing
- 6 White Marshmallows
- 6 Large Cookies
- 24 Mini Chocolate beans/smarties
- 6 Pretzel Sticks/Chocolate Matchmakers
- Black Writing Icing

METHOD:

1. Mix your icing sugar with water until you get a runny yet smooth paste thick enough to cover your cookie in.
2. Drizzle your icing over your cookie to create a melted snow effect.
3. Now sit a marshmallow on the top of the cookie.
4. Now break your pretzels/matchmakers up and create arms.
5. Use your orange chocolate beans (smarties) as the nose and buttons.
6. Now add a face with the black icing and leave the cookies to set.
7. ENJOY!



What do you call a snowman in the summer?

A puddle!



What do you call Santa Claus when he doesn't move?

Santa Pause



Why is it always cold at Christmas?

Because it's Decemberrrrrrrr!



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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL December Report

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August, unless the timetable for responding to consultations on Planning applications requires an extraordinary meeting. The Ordinary November meeting took place on the 18th at The Blackbourne with 10 councillors present together with 3 member of the public and District Council Ward Member Cllr Helen Geake

This report is compiled from that 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 David Barker, 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, 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 October, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Planning results

The following, as notified by Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, were noted:

- DC/17/02349 Proposed development of 1 no. petrol filling station and 2 no. drive through restaurants....
Land off the A14
REFUSED EPC objected.
- DC/19/04368 Erection of 1no. dwelling and garage Land North of Grove Lane
GRANTED EPC objected
- DC/19/02897 Erection of a grain store and erection of a machinery store... Crossways Farm, Kiln Lane
GRANTED
EPC no comment
- DC/19/04532 Discharge of conditions DC/19/00052 Wesley Hall, School Road APPROVED
EPC no comment
- DC/19/04479 Removal of Conditions... restricted occupation Ekfield, Wetherden Road
APPROVED
EPC commented re restricting Permitted Development Rights (restriction granted)
- DC/19/04317 Erection of 3 dwellings Holly Lodge, Cross Street
APPROVED EPC objected
- DC/19/03343 Discharge of Condition (5)- refuse bins and collection areas Hartog Hutton site off Grove Lane
Condition satisfied
EPC made no comment

Planning Applications

The following which were referred from Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, for comment, were considered and the response made as detailed:

- DC/19/02495 Land to the east of Ashfield Road Submission of details under Outline Planning Permission 0210/17 – appearance, landscaping, Layout & scale for 106 No. dwellings

The Meeting agreed to confirm that Council's support remains for the objections, variously, from the professionals at SCC Highways, Anglian Water, Suffolk Constabulary and BMSDC Strategic Housing which had led to their seeking a Holding Objection to the last iteration of this Proposal.

Given that none of the substantive issues have been addressed in this latest submission, Councillors urged rejection of the

Application unless and until these issues are comprehensively addressed to the satisfaction of the agencies concerned.

DC/19/05183 Newbury House, Church Road Erection of a single storey rear extension for play room and WC to car port / store The Meeting agreed to support this Application.

Mid Suffolk District Council Cllrs Sarah Mansel and Helen Geake tabled a joint written report confirming that Mid Suffolk District Council has recently formed a cross-party group of councillors to address the Climate Emergency and responded to a question to the effect that their deliberations will be evidence-based using quantifiable data on housing, transport and power generation. Meanwhile, Mid Suffolk are delivering two affordable two completely affordable housing developments on the middle school sites in both Needham Market and Stowmarket. Both of these developments will include homes for affordable rent, social rent and shared ownership. Over the last 4 years Mid Suffolk have just about kept pace with the loss of properties to the Right to Buy Scheme.

Due to the General Election being called for Thursday 12 December all MSDC Council and Cabinet meetings will be cancelled, as will Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings. Next meetings will be in January. Planning and regulatory committees will continue to be held as normal.

Suffolk County Council

Cllr Jane Storey confirmed that the promised new recycling centre will open in Fornham Road, Bury St Edmunds at the end of November. This will replace the current site at Rougham Hill which will close permanently. All containers can be accessed by the public from ground level, removing the need for steps. Visitors will be able to recycle the same wide range of materials currently available at the Rougham Hill Recycling Centre. A charity Reuse shop, which will take materials suitable for reuse from our recycling centres, will also be opening on site towards the end of the year. It is purpose-built to enable residents to recycle and reuse their rubbish safely and efficiently.

Once the Rougham Hill recycling site is closed, all site users should take their waste to the new Fornham Road site. No waste or recycling can be left by the gates or in the vicinity of the old site. This will be classed as fly-tipping, which is a criminal offence and is liable to prosecution.

For more information on the new Recycling

Centre at Fornham Road and on fly-tipping please visit www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk

BWMA

A report was noted from a recent meeting of the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association, which manages these community facilities on Council's behalf. Amongst other things, it noted that the refurbishment / new-build project at the Wesley is some 3 weeks behind schedule following the discovery of an old well on the footprint of the new foundations. The extra concrete and steelwork to accommodate this is in place and there is every chance of making good some of the lost time as the build progresses. The partition wall between the stage and the vestry has been found to be partially load-bearing, a fact which could not be assessed prior to extensive demolition works. This is to be dealt with by the insertion of a fitch truss sitting on unobtrusive steel uprights. The three old septic tanks into which it had been hoped rainwater run-off could be diverted are found, once cleared, to be inadequate and a new scheme is being developed involving permeable surfacing. Foul water is to be taken away by a new main sewer connection. The replacement of the pavements to the main approach into the hall will require a new sub-base but this will be within budget, as will all of the other works. The payment system for the proposed electric car charging facility has not yet been determined. This late proposed addition is outside of the scope of the original Contract, but the Meeting was reminded that the Amenities Association has pledged £50,000.00 towards the scheme and that this might be useful in addressing specific, 'add-ons' such as the car charging points.

It is confirmed that Elmswell Primary School is happy to produce a time capsule for burial at Wesley as part of an opening ceremony in April-May.

Neighbourhood Plan

A Report, included as part of the Clerk's Report to the Meeting, was noted and is published separately in this Newsletter. It deals with the long-standing and complicated route to the current impasse, stressing the very real circumstance whereby Elmswell and other communities have been forced to accept large tranches of housing driven by national developers rather than guided and controlled by the Local Plan which was, until recently, emasculated by the lack of a 5 year housing land supply.

Street names for the new Borley Crescent development

The District Council seeks advice from town and parish councils when new roads



and streets have to be named so that local references can feature in perpetuity. In the case of Elmswell, the Parish Council, in turn, looks to the Village Recorder (in her acting pending a new volunteer coming forward). For the 4 new roads serving the 60 houses soon to be built adjacent to Borley Crescent, the names *Broom Meadow*, *Gleaners' Way*, *Long Gilberts* and *Glebe Close* were accepted and thanks duly accorded to the Recorder for the underlying research which is featured elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Community Land Trust

In light of the community support evident regarding the establishment of an Elmswell Community Land Trust to develop community facilities, such as social housing owned by and controlled by the village in perpetuity, Council agreed to appoint specialist solicitors Messrs Anthony Collins and the Government's Locality CLT specialist Debbie Wildridge as advisor towards setting up ECLT for a total aggregated sum not to exceed £1,450.00.

Streetlights

The Meeting agreed to upgrade 4 more of the Council's street lights to LED luminaires at a cost not to exceed £7,000.00 net of VAT.

Greene King site purchase

Support continues to come in for the Council's proposal to save the Greene King site on School Road at the heart of the village from the Developers. It is hoped that the existing Planning permission for 8 large houses can be transmuted into smaller affordable homes under the community's control and that the proposed dangerous narrowing of School Road, as part of that Permission, can be abandoned. The case has been made to the relevant Government department for a Loan Sanction enabling borrowing of the £805,000.00 purchase price from the Public Works Loan Board. Meanwhile, a draft Contract has been received from the vendors and the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk continue to work with the Council's solicitors towards an agreed basis for the purchase.

Audits

The Council is audited on 3 levels each year. The first stage is a review of any and all of the accounts and documentation held in the Council office by the Chairman, Vice chairman and one other Member elected by their peers. Cllr Sue Roots agreed to join the inspection team which follows a pro-forma programme, agreed by Council in advance, for exhaustive examination without any constraint of access. Subsequently, an independent qualified Auditor is commissioned to repeat this process with a professional and experienced eye. It is Elmswell Parish Council policy to only retain this Internal Auditor for 3 consecutive years to avoid any issues of over-familiarity. The Meeting agreed to commission Heelis & Lodge for the second consecutive year for a cost not to exceed £300.00. Their report will form part of the formal submission to the Government appointed External Auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLB, whose findings are published and retained on the Council's website.

Parking

Parking enforcement is currently with the Police who admit that they do not have the resources to patrol villages and ensure compliance. Councillors are very aware of the dangerous issues that arise as a result and have previously welcomed the change due in April when the District Council assumes responsibility for parking enforcement, a matter of growing concern as village roads take the ever increasing burden of traffic serving the new housing developments. The Clerk was asked to convene an exploratory meeting with the relevant BMSDC Portfolio Holder, Ward Members, the Police, and Councillors towards addressing specific parking problems in Elmswell in light of the opportunity for input to the new BMSDC Joint Area Parking Plan in advance of its implementation.

Wesley foundation stone

The foundation stone laid by Rev DS Owens when a hall was added to the Wesley chapel in 1956 has been retained to be featured in the new facility currently being built. Councillors agreed that a second stone of the same size and style should be commissioned to be installed in parallel and bearing the text: *'Chapel refurbished and a new hall built. Elmswell Parish Council 2020.'*

Extension at Blackbourne

Applications for grant aid have been made to Mid Suffolk seeking to draw on funds levied from Developers, including those under s106 agreements hypothecated to Village Hall development, for the proposed extension to the Chamberlayne Hall providing more storage and office space, a room to house a village archive and improved ventilation. The Clerk and Chairman are to work towards Council being in a position to seek tenders for fixed price contracts.

Greene King site

The Chairman confirmed that the Council's offer, subject to Contract, of £805,000.00 had been accepted by Greene King for their site at School Road on which Council seeks to erect locally controlled affordable homes for Elmswell people under the auspices of an Elmswell Community Land Trust. Nothing more is definitively planned for the site at this point as the first crucial step is to secure it for the community and to stop development of the 8 sizeable houses for which Planning Permission has already been granted, thus preventing the dangerous narrowing of School Road which is implicit in that Permission. Public support has been substantially expressed for the project, including recognition of the increase in Council Tax necessary to fund the borrowing for the purchase. It was agreed that the Council Chairman, Vice chairman and Clerk be delegated to negotiate the details of the Contract through the Council's solicitor and that Borrowing Approval be sought via the Department for Communities and Local Government towards a loan from the Government's Public Works Loan Board. Thanks were accorded to the many community groups and individuals who had worked so hard to publicise the initiative and to secure over 450 signed expressions of approval from households across the community.

A14 / A1088 roundabout

The ElmsWild volunteers have been asked to advise on measures to take advantage of the opportunities for environmental management works, including planting, presented by the recent clearance and coppicing works carried out by the Highways Agency on this roundabout following a formal assessment, at the behest of the Council Chairman, of the hazard posed by the overgrowth including reference to a record of accidents resulting from driver confusion as visibility was severely limited. A similar Safety Audit is to be requested regarding the bend on School Road at the Parnell Lane junction where a recent serious collision occurred.

Next Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 19th December 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.

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



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

Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
16th	20th	17th	16th	20th

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

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

What's On in Elmswell ?



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

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

December 2019

- 3 Exchange Social Club Christmas Lunch
- 3 7.00pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Nosh & Natter, entertainment by an Ipswich choir, Musicology
- 4 Exchange Afternoon WI 20th Anniversary Celebrations with invited guests & seasonal music
- 6 "Companions @Blackbourne 10.15 - 12 noon
- 7 Over 55's Club Xmas Party with Pat James
- 8 Baby & Toddler Group Christmas party at Blackbourne
- 10 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Christmas Party
- 11 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:30am followed by Christmas lunch celebration lunch at Fox
- 12 Food n Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 Elmswell History Groupmeeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Bristol Fashion (folk group): "An evening of Traditional Music and Songs from East Anglia" Light seasonal refreshments will be served. *This event is ADVANCE TICKETS only, none on the door. Tel: 01359-242601 for details.
- 13 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 13 Bingo Christmas special, doors open 6 pm eyes down 7.30pm
- 18 Carols on the green (near crown mill) 7pm
- 24 Messy church at St. John's 3:30pm
- 24 5.00pm Carols by Candlelight at Elmswell Baptist Church - come and enjoy a very atmospheric experience to get your Christmas off to a perfect
- 24 Late night carols at St. John's 11pm
- 25 Christmas Day service at St. John's 10am

January 2020

- 5 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 8 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - another of Jenny's Surprise Evenings
- 9 Food n Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 Elmswell History Groupmeeting, Chamberlayne Hall, Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Speaker Keely Taylor: "How to Build your Family Tree"
- 10 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Kirsten Ryland, Bees
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 26 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

February 2020

- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Linda Shodbolt, Baby feeding through the ages
- 13 Food n Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell History Groupmeeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Speaker Terry O'Donoghue: "Bury's Guildhall"
- 18 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm Speaker: Luci Skinner from Woottens of Wenhaston - 'Auriculas'
- 21 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 23 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 28 "ELF Wine Tasting of South American wines. Commencing at 7:30pm Tickets £12.50 each from the Library".

March 2020

- 6 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 10 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Mike Smith, Stowmarket Food Bank
- 12 Food n Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 Elmswell History Groupmeeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Speaker Frances Hart: "British Canals and Waterways"
- 17 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Speaker: Chris Reeve Head Gardener - 'A Gardener's Year at Helmingham' Hall
- 20 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 30 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

April 2020

- 3 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 9 Food n Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 Elmswell History Group's 20th Anniversary meeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Speaker Claire Gapper: "Decorative Plasterwork in Elizabethan & Jacobean Suffolk"
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm David McDonnell, Romans in Suffolk
- 17 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 21 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Speaker: Jim Paine from Walnut Tree Garden Nursery - 'The Secret Life of Plants'
- 27 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

May 2020

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Annual General Meeting
- 14 Elmswell History Groupmeeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Speaker Jacquie Norman: "Tudor Costume in the time of Henry VIII" *July tickets on sale*
- 15 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 19 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm Speaker: Chris Dale - 'Sweet Peas'
- 25 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 29 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon

June 2020

- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Judith Muncila, A look at the lighter side of life
- 11 Elmswell History Group meeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7pm A.G.M., the Speaker Anthony Cobbold: "The Cobbold Family" *July tickets on sale*
- 12 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm Speaker: Dr Ian Bedford - 'The trouble without wasps'
- 26 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 29 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

July 2020

- 9 Elmswell History Group- 6.45pm. Annual Outing - Mildenhall's Warren Lodge Details and Tickets from 01359-242601
- 10 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Summer outing
- 21 Summer activity TBC
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am - 12 noon
- 27 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: November 26th, December 24th, January 28th, February 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

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association

Reg. Charity No. 304879. 1,832 copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

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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	Donna Hughes	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	Clr 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 Mansel	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Helen Geake	Helen.geake@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
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	07494 864 231
Fox Bowls Team bowls at Blackbourne	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	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.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	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	John Ibbetson	jayeye130@gmail.com	241086
WI - evening	Margaret Stevens	stevensmarg@tiscali.co.uk	408452
Youth Football	Chris Smyth	smyth98@hotmail.com	07717 841 591

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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