

The Elmswell Newsletter

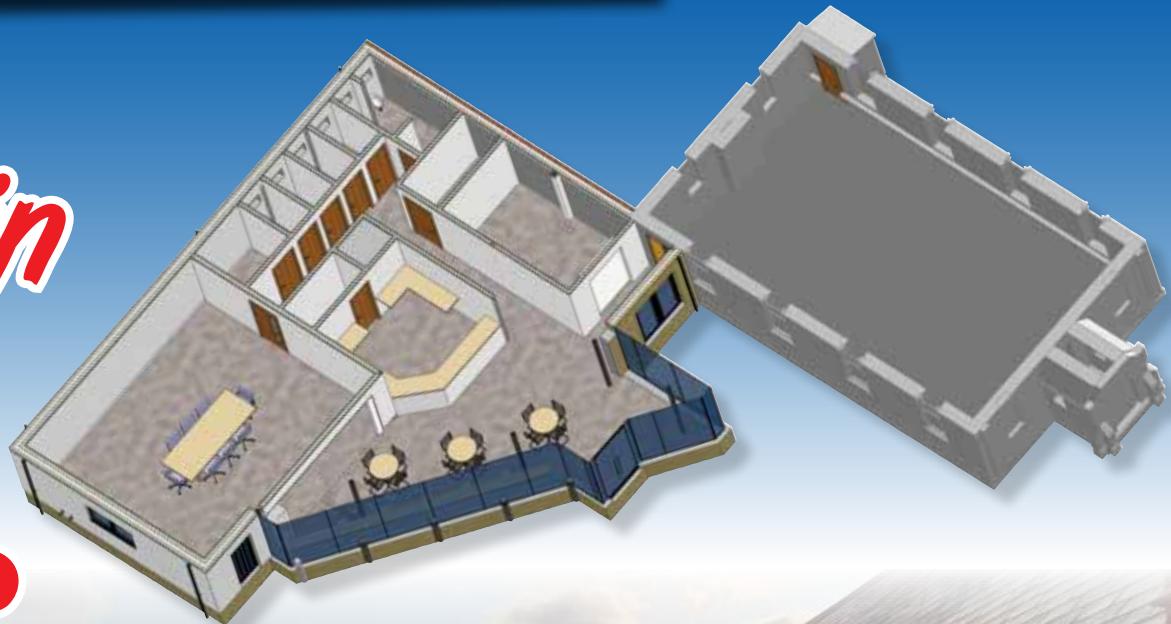


More than thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

OCTOBER 2020

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud

Pie in
the
sky?



Bricks on the ground
... see editorial & centre pages

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EDITORIAL



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.

Could there be a worse time to buy a pub and start a coffee bar next door?

Surely not, for are we not all doomed? Is not our economy, and Capitalism its very self, heading for the rocks as, weakened by a plague deliberately engineered in foreign parts by mad scientists with high foreheads and the gleam of world domination in their cold, gimlet eyes, civilisation as we know it withers like sneezed virus droplets on a sunny day and we become slaves in a joyless monoculture of drab equality (although some will be more equal than others)?

With the threat of Christmas cancelled - due to elf isolating and the rule of 6 putting the kibosh on the Nativity scene unless the oxen bow out - the future isn't going to be what it used to be.

It's a point of view.

Clearly not one shared by the various bodies and individuals who sought community backing for just that – buying a pub and starting a coffee bar.

A tense moment, then, as one of these ventures is about to be put to the test. The Wesley is substantially finished. Our centre pages give a hint of the long-awaited result. The inevitable cat-and-mouse nature of the restrictions, advice and statute which currently confuse means that there can be no mass gathering for the ribbon-cutting. Instead, in typical Elmswell fashion, those steering the venture will simply analyse what matters and implement what works. They propose, within whatever legitimate constraints which apply at the time to community facilities and retail food outlets, to invite the village to take a look and, eventually, a cup of something.

Once Councillors and Management Committee members have taken their first look, the user-groups of the old Wesley hall will have their chance and then, by-appointment-tours will be arranged in conjunction with the coffee shop being made available for the community to come, as distantly as advised, together. The building and the facilities, strange in these times, unmasked!

But, as a supportable community venture, how can this work? The meeting spaces are a given, and the success of Blackbourne suggests that, eventually, this business will be brisk. But a coffee shop?

Consider. Only half of high street coffee shops have re-opened since March. Over 10,000 such outlets remain closed with job losses such as at Pret A Manger (2,890 jobs and

30 shops gone) and Costa (1,650 redundancies) suggesting that the coffee shop boom is over as millions work from home rather than commute to the towns and cities where these outlets offer recreation and sustenance. No-one is opening coffee shops in the high streets of our towns and cities.

So, where do all of those coffee customers go? 'Not far', is the answer as smaller market towns and out-of-town ventures thrive. 'Not far', in Elmswell means to the centre of the village, a ten- minute walk from even the outlying houses...a walk itself suggested as a further benefit to the previously office bound.

But coffee shops are not just for caffeine and cake. Since 1651, when the first English establishment appeared in Oxford, to the criticism that it contributed to, 'the decay of study, and consequently of learning', as... 'most scholars retire and spend much of the day in hearing and speaking of news', such establishments have attracted criticism as places where, 'the disaffected met, and spread scandalous reports'. Gossip, for good or ill, the very life blood of a community coming together; coffee houses in their various guises have constantly threatened the establishment by allowing the people to speak and for there to be a people's voice which may well be at odds with the received wisdom of the Great and the Good. But latterly, they simply offer a neutral space to come and go at will, communing with others or choosing to sit immersed in a newspaper, a laptop or an interesting thought.

Which strikes another very contemporary consideration. The past 6 months have strained relationships and stretched the inner personal resources of many in coming to terms with the new and ever-changing limits on our physical society. The ensuing widespread loneliness and stress

is not addressed by Zooming and Whatsapping, Facebook and Twitter. These are raw tools of contact, without the nuance and warmth, the humanity, of unspoken communication which are available in a real chat, a chin wag, in the to-ing and fro-ing of repartee and the call-and-response of argument, debate, discussion – of good old Suffolk 'mardling'. In the pasty on-line face the eyes tell you nothing. Live, face-to-face, and the eyes can tell the truth.

The drivers of the initiative to take on the battle, against considerable odds, to acquire the Wesley site for the village had the vision and courage to propose a dramatic re-shaping of the facility which had served so well but was far past its best. They had the foresight to see how the social dynamics of the village were beginning an accelerating change as the demographic, the social pattern and make-up of our neighbours, included welcoming an increasing number of new, fresh minds in young families with demands and expectations well beyond what was on offer when the Wesley hall was built in the 1950's. Wesley will be there for them and for us now and for the foreseeable future. Our councillors and community leaders have engaged in, 'cathedral thinking'; they are not designing and planning and building for the now and the near future only, but for the generations to come.

Recent events, terrible though they are, will continue to impose pressures which will be better handled within our community because the new Wesley is happening. In the saddest of circumstances and for reasons to be regretted, Wesley is just in time.



CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL ART CLUB

The art club is made up of a mixed bunch of people with different backgrounds, lifestyles and experiences, all with one thing in common, an interest in painting, sketching or drawing irrespective of their skill and ability. There is no minimum skill test to join and we have an open door policy, anyone can join. Learning is by observation and speaking with other members who are all more than delighted to pass on their skills and experiences. So don't be shy, come along and see what a friendly group of people we are and what a relaxed atmosphere there is among our membership. Social standing and background is not an inhibitor. Talking about social standing you can't get much higher than Prince Charles except perhaps Queen Victoria. Throughout her long reign she painted mostly in water colour and did line drawings as well. Some of her drawings were intimate sketches of her family which she expressly stated should not be made public. One of these showed some of her family at bath time with one of the princesses actually in the bath! No wonder she didn't want them to be made public. Prince Charles also is an accomplished water-colourist. He clearly follows the royal tradition with many paintings of his beloved Scotland and he always takes his palette and brushes with him on royal tours. Landscapes are his favourite subject. Any art club member would be absolutely delighted to make the money Prince Charles has made from his paintings.

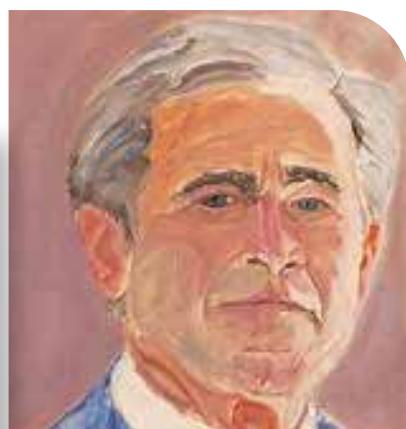
Many people in the public eye painted as a way of relaxation. Hitler, before he started his reign of terror, actually wanted to be an artist. Unfortunately for the world his application to study art at the Academy of Fine

Art in Vienna was turned down on two occasions. Who knows where we would be now if he had been successful in his quest? Once he became Chancellor he stole artworks he liked and admired but destroyed works that he classed as unsuitable and degenerate especially modern art. Such is the power of absolute dictatorship! Our own Winston Churchill was an acclaimed artist and used his time painting as a means of coping with his depression. Photographs of him painting always showed him with his iconic cigar at hand. Some American presidents also used painting as a means of de-stressing. Apart from the present incumbent! Ulysses S. Grant, Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter all used painting to relax. To me the most able



of the artistic presidents and I have to say most surprising, is George W. Bush. His portraiture is very good including many self portraits and also of senior national and worldwide politicians. His second exhibition was immensely successful showing a prodigious output. Our featured paintings this month are quite different. Caroline Cooke's owl is a watercolour using a very limited palette of just three colours. Maureen Lazarus did the watercolour of chestnut fencing on seaside dunes.

John Welford 01359 240166



Never paint your wife or your mother – because it's almost impossible to get the paint out of their hair.

George W Bush

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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

Welcome to the Afternoon W.I. section of your village newsletter. Life is full of false dawns at present and just when we thought we could all get together for the first time since March, the new restrictions came into force. It's very difficult to make 35 members look like 6. We were aware that not all of our ladies would be returning in October as planned for very good reasons but we were expecting 17. Never mind, we will withstand the disappointment. Everything comes to those who wait, or at least that's what they say. The committee have, therefore, decided that we will now plan to meet again next year in the month of February.

. The programme for next year is well advanced and I have re-booked some of the speakers postponed from this year. On a more cheerful note, after recommendation from another member, we took a trip to Anglesey Abbey last week to see the dahlia border, and cyclamen walk. If you want to lift the spirits, it certainly does the trick. The colours are vibrant and the blooms at present are at their very best. The much softer palette of the cyclamen in pinks and whites all



beneath the trees along the avenue to Lode Mill are beautiful. I took many photographs and I have included just two which hopefully will give you a brief glimpse of what's on offer. Some refreshment in the restaurant afterwards was not what we are used to from The National Trust who have obviously taken the new pandemic restrictions on board with vigour.

Still it filled a gap and gave us the opportunity to sit down for a while. I know many of our members are getting together in small groups when they are able and our Suffolk headquarters are also keeping everyone well informed about their news and on line courses which are now available.

*Keep safe, and keep smiling
Maureen Davis*

ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

Has your garden surprised you this year? It has me. Yes, there has been more time to tend and keep everything under control, plenty of time to plan for a colourful outcome and the opportunity to notice things as we enjoyed more time outside. However, it is quite surprising what we find as we tidy and prune the mass of leaves and twigs that are past their best. I surprisingly came across a vivid yellow

and orange bloom at the back of my border. Totally in the wrong place but it is the flower of a Kniphofia, a red hot poker on a spindly stem. How it came to be in my garden is a mystery, but it is very welcome and I hope that with gently persuasion it will grow and continue to shine into 2021 where it will be given a starring role.

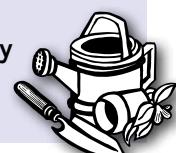
As I was sharing my exciting find, a friend shared a similar experience. In the spring she transplanted a hydrangea from the back garden to the front where she hoped it would feel more at home. It has grown well and produced the biggest blooms ever, so it is in the right place. However, to her surprise she realised that the plant was hiding something. Under the hydrangea foliage, leaves of a totally different plant could be seen and evidence of a sizable squash emerged as she investigated further. Not quite the result she expected but both plants are obviously thriving. A lesson in nature that shows just what can materialise against all odds.



I wonder if you also have found something that surprised you in your garden. It could be something growing that you did not plant or a creature making a home for itself because your garden provided everything it needed. I hope so.

There will be no formal meeting of the Elmswell Gardening Club in October. Government Guidelines continue to change as the COVID19 situation begins to currently emerge. The proposed November meeting is still subject to review. If you are not already a member make a note in your diary to join us on the third Tuesday in the month when the Club is able to meet.

If you require further information about Elmswell Garden Club (EGC), please contact Catherine, on 01359 242172 or Nick, on 01359 242601. The Club email is elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com and a good way of asking a question that will be swiftly answered.





A CHARITY THAT BEGAN AT HOME....

Here in Elmswell is a registered charity that supports over 100 children who live in poverty in the Philippines through child sponsorship. The Purim Trust was founded in 2018 by Esther Branco Dias and her father, David McCarthy, both Elmswell residents, and provides support for these children with the main aim of enabling them to get an education giving them the hope of future employment and a way out of poverty. But hungry children can't learn so the monthly sponsorship also provides them with food as well as clothing, school supplies and medical and dental care.

Most of their families are without work or income because of Covid-19 but, through an ongoing appeal, the charity has been able to send extra funds to provide food for all the families and hopes to be able to continue doing this until the situation improves.

A new appeal has just been launched in response to the Philippine government's decision that all children must have home education for the

foreseeable future. However, this requires laptops and internet access which is completely unaffordable for these families, so The Purim Trust is appealing for donations from individuals and businesses to buy 110 educationally-approved laptops. Normally costing £130 each, the charity is using some of its limited reserves to reduce the cost to just £91 per laptop, a relatively small sum to give a child a future and a hope. The donations given thus far will buy 90

laptops, leaving just 20 to be funded, although the charity is determined to equip future sponsored children with them too.

More details of the charity, its work, appeals, photos and videos, are on its website along with various ways you can help support their work: www.thepurimtrust.org.



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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

The committee has now decided that, unfortunately, for a number of Covid-related reasons, we cannot re-start our monthly talks until January at the earliest.

Meanwhile, following our report last month on **Prof Henslow of Hitcham**, we've subsequently been advised that MEAL's exhibition will not now commence until mid-October (just in time for the children's half-term), but that it will continue throughout the autumn/winter months. To avoid disappointment and to double-check their opening times, it would probably be best to contact the museum on 01449-612229 or www.eastanglianlife.org.uk before setting out.



If you're anything like me when visiting historic houses, one of the highlights of the visit would be to wander round the library and gaze at the tantalising books which, unfortunately, are usually under lock and key. However, in collaboration with the University of East Anglia (UEA), a project has been started to unlock some of these for all to see by clicking onto a brand new website - <https://discoverhistoricbooks.unlockingthearchive.co.uk/> - which allows you to look inside some of **East Anglia's marvellous historic books** and explore their hidden histories. You'll discover everything from how the books were made to the ideas they contained and who owned them

centuries ago. So far, the books which have been 'unlocked' are from Norfolk's Blickling Estate in Aylsham, Norfolk Heritage Centre, and Kings Lynn Public Library, but we believe more will be added in due course.

We are now in receipt of the two Autumn publications from our 'parent' organisation, the **Suffolk Local History Council** - founded in 1953 as a voluntary organisation that exists to promote the study of local history and to encourage historical research in Suffolk.

Their **Newsletter** tells us that, as with so many events lately, their October Conference and November AGM (both usually held at Elmswell's Blackbourne Centre) have been cancelled. It gives details of last year's conference speakers which makes interesting reading if you were unable to attend. There are also several insightful obituaries including of William Serjeant, the first County Archivist of Suffolk 1974-87; and long-standing Suffolk farmer and Mendlesham local historian, Roy Colchester, who was described by Dr David Dymond as "one of those observant and thoughtful farmers who have a

Suffolk Local History Council NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2020

ISSUE NO 101

SLHC

genuine feel for the land and for the uniqueness of their home parish and its surrounding area". There are four book reviews of recently-published books on a variety of local historical subjects, as well as an item on a portrait of Captain John Henniker-Major of Thornham Hall (near Gislingham and Eye), painted by Mather Brown who, although a native of New England in America, spent much of his life in 'old' England and was closely connected to Benjamin West, successor to Sir Joshua Reynolds at the Royal Academy.

Their **Suffolk Review** publication



includes details of the nearly 500-year(!!) dispute on fishing rights (mainly for herring) between Suffolk's Lowestoft and Norfolk's Gt Yarmouth [is this where and when the infamous Suffolk-Norfolk rivalry started?], the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 as implemented in Ipswich [surprisingly, the Poor Law system was not finally abolished until 1948!], an article on the historical origins of street names in Stoke-by-Nayland (north-west of Orford), as well as an item on the sad and untimely death in 1700 in a duel, at the age of 25, of Edward Devereux, owner of Ipswich's Christchurch Mansion.

Please advise if you would like to borrow either or both of these publications to read much more of these various interesting articles at your leisure.

Elmswell
History
Group

For further information about our History Group,
please visit our website
www.elmswell-history.org.uk
or contact our Secretary, Stella Chamberlin
on 01359-242601.

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"COMPANIONS"

These are strange days we are living in; some of us feel isolated with no friends - but you are not alone. If you need someone to talk to, just pick up the 'phone and we'll be there to speak to you.

I saw this poem on the back of a friend's door and thought some of us could relate to it. I know we are not meeting at the moment but we are still around as friends and Companions to one another.

Please keep safe and look after yourselves.

Linda Waspe (242224)

"I'm Fine - How are you?"

There's nothing the matter with me,
I'm just as healthy as can be
I have arthritis in both knees.

And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

All my teeth have had to come out
And my diet I hate to think about.
I'm overweight and I can't get thin
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

And Arch supports I need for my feet
Or I wouldn't be able to go out in the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night
But every morning I find I'm alright

My memory's failing, my head's in a spin But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in,

Old age is golden I've heard it said
But sometimes I wonder as I go to bed,

With me ears in a drawer, me teeth in a cup And my glasses on a shelf until I get up
And when sleep dims my eyes I say to myself Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?

The reason I know my youth has been spent Is my get-up-and-go has got-up-and went!
But really I don't mind when I think with a grin Of all the places my get-up has been.
I get up each morning and dust off my wits Pick up the paper and read the Obit.
If my name is missing, I'm therefore not dead, So I eat a good breakfast and jump back into bed.

The moral of this as the tale unfolds,
Is that for you and me, who are growing old.
It is better to say "I'm fine" with a grin,
Than to let people know the Shape we Are In.

OVER 55'S CLUB

Hello to all the members and friends of the club we hope you are all keeping ok.hopefully we can avoid another lockdown by sticking to all the government guidelines be it that they change regularly.

Looking forward to 2021 the hall is booked for a resumption of meetings on February 22nd when we will kick off with some entertainment when it

would be great to welcome visitors from other clubs to join us for a singsong

Those members who booked to go to Llandudno will be pleased to know that we now have a firm date to leave Elmswell on Tuesday March 16th 2021 returning on Saturday 20th.

The holiday which was cancelled this August has now been rebooked for

Monday July 12th (5Days) where we can offer plenty of Twin/double rooms there may also be one or two singles available further details later please register your interest by contacting me on 241002.

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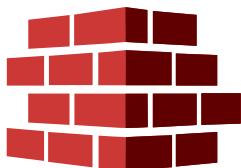
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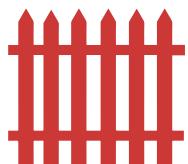
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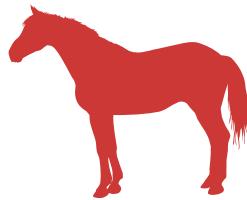
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AROUND & ABOUT



ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Hello Elmswell,

It has been wonderful to hear how pleased everyone is now that you can come into the library and browse again.

Assuming that there is not a second lockdown (which may have already happened between me writing and this being sent out), we will be open more in October.

The new open times from Monday 5th October will be

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10.30am – 1pm,
2.30pm – 5pm

Wednesday: 2.30pm – 5pm

Thursday: 10.30am – 1pm,
2.30pm – 5pm

Friday: 2.30pm – 5pm

Saturday: 10.30am – 1pm

Sunday: 10.30am – 3pm

The rules have also changed recently so now we need everyone to fill in a test and trace slip or use the QR code when you enter the library including to only drop books off.

We have also started marking items as returned when you bring them back, so you do not have to worry about them while they are being quarantined.

If you want to use the computer it is now available on a walk in basis but don't worry if you prefer to book it, as that option is still available.

This month's online audio book club book is The Mermaid and Mrs Hancock by Imogen Hermes Gower and read by Juliet Stevenson. This book has been described as a spellbinding story of curiosity and obsession. This audiobook is available through both Libby / Overdrive and BorrowBox. The book group meets online at 3pm on the second Monday of the month. Contact the library if you would like to join.

For the latest updates about which services are available and where they are available check <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/coronavirus/>.

Stay well and I hope to see you soon,

Miles

What's on at Elmswell Library?

Baby Bounce

There will be a Baby Bounce post on Elmswell Library Facebook page 11am every Tuesday.

Online Audio Book Club

The Mermaid and Mrs Hancock by Imogen Hermes Gower and read by Juliet Stevenson 3pm on Monday 12th October (2nd Monday of the month)

The Keep in Touch Community Café

Cancelled until further notice.

Lego Club

Lego ideas will be posted on Facebook every Sunday.

Elmswell Library Friends Group AGM

Postponed until further notice.

WOOLPIT ACTION GROUP

Following Mid Suffolk's decision to grant permission for 300 houses to the north of Woolpit, including land earmarked for a primary school for Elmswell children, a group of Woolpit residents have formed a group which is applying for a Judicial Review of the decision.

Would you want to transport children across the A14 to primary school? This will only add to the existing traffic congestion in Elmswell. Without

this new school in Woolpit, more housing developments in Elmswell would be unsustainable.

The application for the Judicial Review has to be in by 2nd October, and so time is short. If you would like to donate, or help with the fight to keep our villages rural and self-sufficient, please email woolpitactiongroup@gmail.com for details.



The new WESLEY COFFEE SHOP will need staff

If you are interested in part time work, including weekends, making and selling coffee shop drinks & snacks, please contact the Parish Council Office by email giving your name and address, details of any relevant experience, and a contact telephone number.

clerk @ elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk





ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Hello everyone in our beautiful area of Suffolk.

It is very easy to focus on the many negative things happening at the moment. However, autumn is traditionally Harvest time and a time to say thank you. It's a good time to pause and think through the many things we can be grateful for, even during the trials of a pandemic. I decided to spend a few moments making a list of all I could be thankful for. Once I started, I found the list went on and on. Let's be honest – we can be quick to forget all of God's blessings in such difficult times, when actually his goodness and faithfulness remain. We in Mid-Suffolk are actually very blessed.

But on with the latest news from St John's Elmswell ... You are very welcome to join us in the church building on Sundays at 10:30am. Alternatively, you can still access the service from home via our web site and Facebook page.

October starts with an all age harvest celebration on the 4th. On the other Sundays in the month, our online Zoom Sunday School will be at 9:30am via Zoom for 20-30 minutes and our main service will follow in the church at 10:30am. We continue to stream services of Night Prayer online on Facebook at 8pm every Tuesday and Thursday. Remember, everybody is welcome at all our services.

If you would like your children to be part of the Zoom Sunday School,

please contact us (details below).

Annual Church Meetings – Monday October 12th

Due to COVID, we were unable to hold our annual meetings back in April. We will, therefore, be holding these on Monday October 12th at 7:30pm online using Zoom. We will keep it as short as possible. The meeting will include election of churchwardens and PCC members and reports from the treasurer, churchwarden and rector. There will also be the opportunity for questions. Please contact us (details below) for the Zoom details.

Quiz Night - Saturday October 10th

This will be a "fun" family quiz that is not too brain-taxing over Zoom. Cost is £7.00 donation. Teams of up to four plus children if under 16. Please let John Evans know if you are up for this, and if you have any ideas that might help. John can be contacted on 01449 781251 or email johnevan21@btinternet.com

A Harvest Prayer:

Dear God,

We thank you for all the gifts of ripened fruit and vegetables you give to us at Harvest time.
For the bread and the cereals on our table every day
and for all the other good things we have to eat.
Help those who are less fortunate and grant us all your peace this day and for evermore.

Amen.

Weekly Diary for October:

Sunday:

10:30am Service in church and streamed on Facebook. October 4 is Harvest all age worship.

9:30am Sunday School via Zoom (not October 4). Contact us for details.

Tuesday and Thursday:

8:00pm Night Prayer streamed on Facebook

Saturday:

9:00am Weekly Prayer meeting via Zoom.

10:30am Coffee and Chat via Zoom

Rector: Peter Goodridge

Email: elmswellrector@gmail.com

Tel: 01359 240512

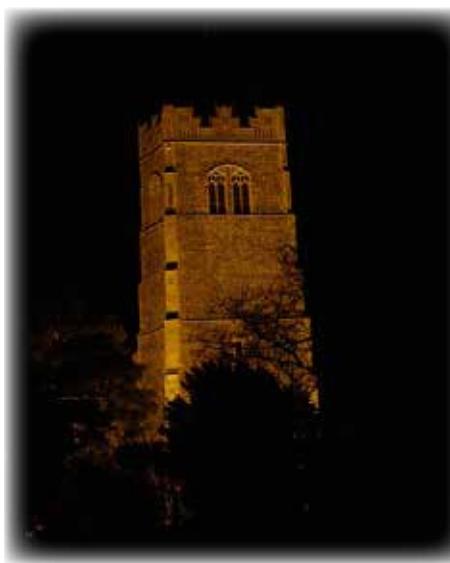
Web site: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell

YouTube: accessed via our website home page

Zoom: contact us for the details





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 just make a donation.

For October the lights will be on between 7.00 p.m. and midnight.

One night's floodlighting costs £5.

Cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL". Thank you for your support.

SEPTEMBER 2020 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 21 Happy Birthday Liz.
With all my love, Mike.

OCTOBER 2020 SPONSORSHIPS

- 5 in loving memory of Mary Eveline Skinner. "Remembered with love". Tony & Margaret.
- 6 remembering Dorothy Bloomfield's Birthday.
- 15 remembering a dear brother, Derek Bloomfield, on his Birthday.
- 18 "Thank You" to all the people who have given their time to help and support others through these difficult times.
- 19 remembering Roger Dalby. "Always in our hearts". Love from all the family.
- 21 remembering my Mum, Olive Rose Dalton, on her Birthday.
- 21 in memory of Ron Comber's Birthday.
- 21 remembering my Dad, Charlie. Mike.
- 22 fond memories of our dear son, Matthew J. Pollen, on what would have been his 43rd Birthday.
- 25 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 26 remembering Carl Finch on his Birthday.
- 27 in loving memory of our Dad, Bernard Booth, who passed away 27th October 1997.
- 27 in loving memory of Mary Eveline Skinner, remembered with love on her Birthday. Tony & Margaret.
- 27 cherished memories of Mary Eveline Skinner, a dear Aunt, on her Birthday. "Remembered with love".
- 28 in loving memory of a dear Nana and Grandad, Rene and George Stiff. Louise and Brian. xx.
- 28 as the leaves fall this Autumn, precious memories of a dear Mum and Dad, Rene and George Stiff. Monica, Philip and family. xx.
- 30 "Happy Birthday Sylvia". A much loved Mum, Nan and Great Grandma".
- 30 Ken Catchpole. Remembering your 83rd Birthday. "Because someone we love is in heaven, there's a little bit of heaven in our home". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 31 in memory of Roy Clark.

All bookings and payments please to :-
Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 01359 240908)

ANNUAL POPPY APPEAL

Once again we are approaching the time of the Annual Poppy Appeal.

Much has happened since the last appeal. We have seen members of our armed forces undertaking yet another role showing just how versatile they are. Personnel who just a few years ago were serving in the heat and terrain of Afghanistan are now on the streets of our towns and cities supporting the NHS in a war against a very different and invisible enemy. One that is not yet beaten and appears to be able to make a comeback.

These soldiers, sailors and airmen (it is difficult to tell one from another in their

combat outfits) putting themselves at risk on our behalf may, in the future requires the services of Poppy Support. At the same time, we must not forget those of previous years who lives have been blighted by the many conflicts and incidents in which our armed forces have been involved.

At the time of writing I do not know for certain what form this year's collection will take. It appears likely that there will be no house-to-house collection. Only collections in shops and pubs will take place and these will be subject to

whatever Government restrictions are in force at the time.

Whatever for the appeal and collection takes, I would ask you to give as generously as you can wherever you can. In previous years the Elmswell collection has been very good. This year it will probably not be possible to actively identify the amounts and individual areas collected but, please do give generously.

Tony Chaplin
Poppy Appeal Co-Ordinator



EXPLORERS

Explorer scouts is for young people aged 14-18 years (can start at 13½).

We offer opportunities:

- to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme (Bronze, Silver or Gold) which is still running and adapting to the current situation
- to volunteer with younger scouting sections and/or complete the Young Leader Training Scheme
- to achieve top scouting awards
- or just to meet other young people and challenge yourself to achieve something new

Shackleton is the local Explorer unit in and around Elmswell, Wetherden and Bacton.

We are currently meeting online, usually on Wednesday evenings, while we complete the rigorous risk assessment needed for a return to socially-distanced, face-to-face scouting. After this, we are likely to have a blended programme of online and socially-distanced meetings so that everyone – including anyone shielding or just unsure about meeting face-to-face - can be catered for. We are in the process of setting up a new Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group for 14+ year olds.

Unsurprisingly, this is been a very strange year for scouting.

All face-to-face scouting activities in the UK stopped in mid March.

For many scout groups across the country, and around the world, virtual scouting became the norm and, while this was initially very challenging, it has also provided some unexpected opportunities.

A huge wave of creativity hit the internet in March and, over the summer, scouts, cubs and beavers all over the UK and across the world have taken part in sleep-ins, camp-outs, cook-ins, escape rooms, beat box sessions, fundraising, virtual jamborees, games, campfires, virtual visits to wildlife sanctuaries in Africa, tours of Sikh temples and many other activities. All of this via the internet from the relative safety of our own living rooms or gardens.

Young people in the UK who were part way through their Duke of Edinburgh

awards changed their challenges and volunteering overnight to fit in with social distancing and community needs. We have watched new friendships and co-operations spring up: UK scouts meet South African scouts, Brighton meets Toronto, Hertfordshire and Glasgow beavers share online meetings, locked-down scouts in Melbourne meet ... well, anyone and everyone in their case! Life has changed for all of us and will continue to be more than a little strange for some time to come. But if you have (or are) a young person hanging around, looking for some company, a purpose and some achievement, get in touch.

Julia Norman,
Shackleton Explorer Unit,
shackleton@btinternet.com



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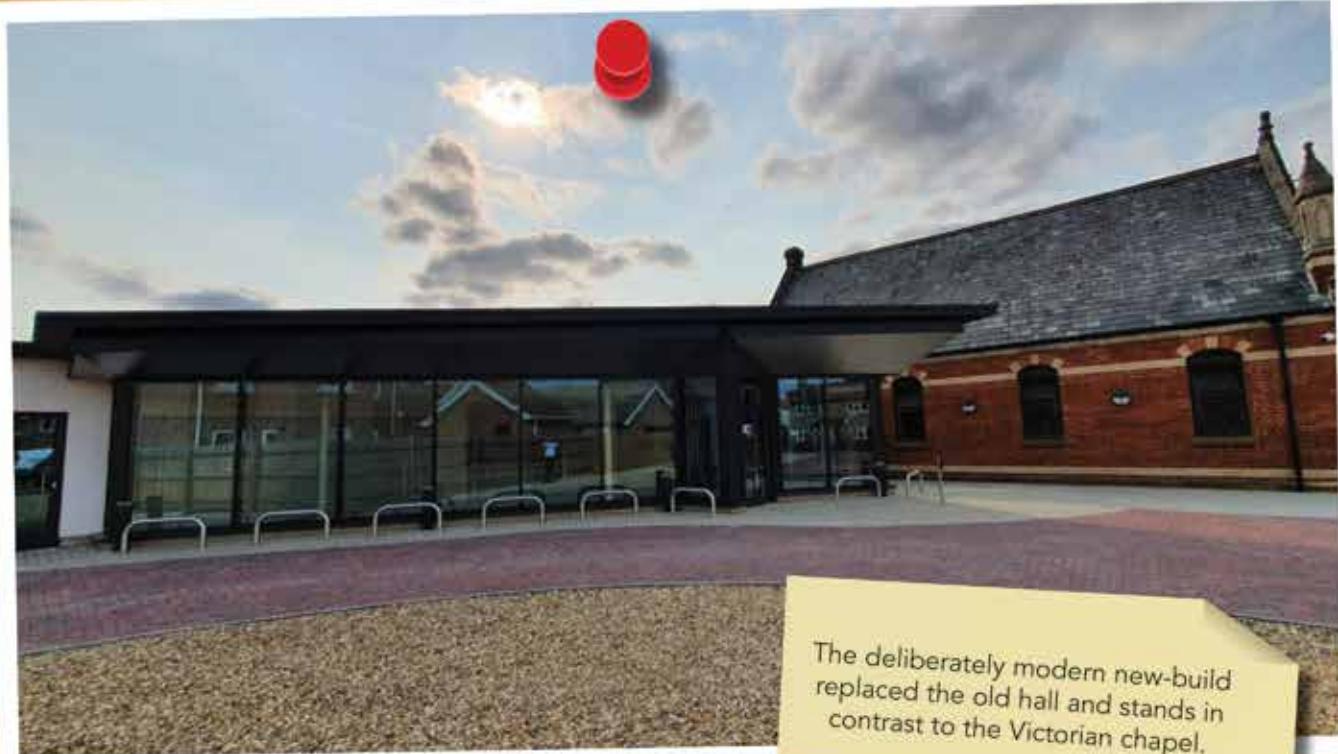
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WESLEY EMERGES



The deliberately modern new-build replaced the old hall and stands in contrast to the Victorian chapel.

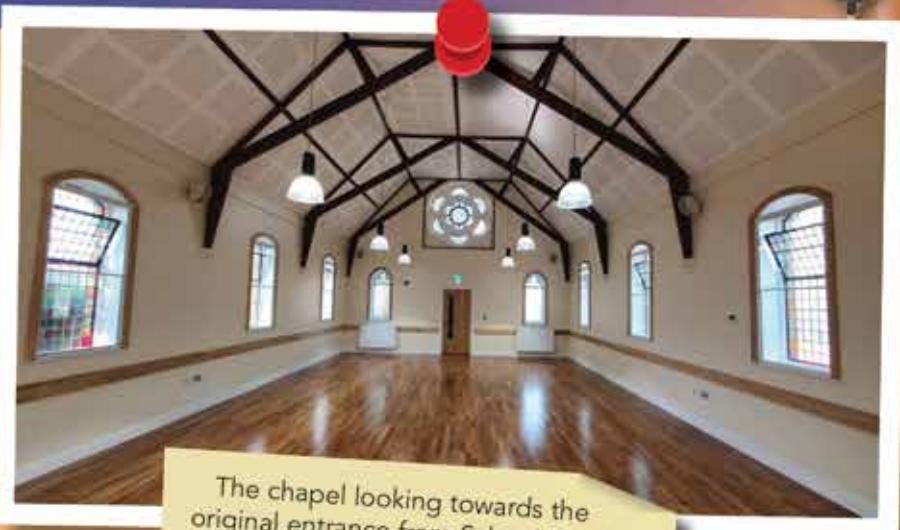
A prominent feature is the strikingly angular roof line which meets the full-length windows of the building in a stainless steel soffit, a deliberate feature in itself



The maximum number of car parking spaces - 20 - is an important practical factor in the design.



The entrance area showing the coffee bar serve-over counter, coffee machine yet to be fitted



The chapel looking towards the original entrance from School Road



The 'rose' window, restored and brought to new prominence as a clear statement of the building's heritage



The entrance area looking towards the link into the chapel



One of the original stained glass windows, the original restored as was using some of the glass from the redundant doors which were similarly glazed and secondary glazing fitted to ensure a warm hall



The chapel looking towards what was the vestry end with a new double door into the garden which was made possible by the village's acquisition of the Tavern site adjacent

AROUND & ABOUT



HELLO FROM ELMSWELL GUIDING!

We hope that you are all staying safe and enjoying the slight return to a new normal we seem to have at the moment!

In March, Girl Guiding asked all guiding units to stop meeting, but they have slowly started to issue guidance on us returning to face to face meetings over the coming months!

During lock down many Rainbows, Brownies and Guides took part in a virtual sleepover organised by the

scouts, all girls who took part have a badge waiting for them (for when we meet!)

To keep in touch with the Brownies we held a zoom meeting and each week a small activity is sent out via email. All the activities will all count towards a badge in the new programme.

We have all adapted in different ways, but the new ways of working will see us needing additional adult helpers across the programme.

If you're interested in helping, becoming a leader, or just meeting us to see what a lovely bunch of people we are.... get in touch!

If you have experience in guiding, or just fancy discovering your inner child please drop us an email at elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com and we can arrange to chat with you about exciting opportunities in the village.

If your daughter is interested in joining please visit:
www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

“

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Thursdays,
it's all fun
and games.

Oh, and inspiring
the next
generation
of women.

SARAH
Guides volunteer

”

Inspire girls in Elmswell today
Volunteer at girlguiding.org.uk



PRIOR TO VEDAY...

Our June magazine carried some touching and revealing accounts from members of the History Group of VE Day as they experienced it. Another of their members, Peter Jones recalls memories of the air raids over London before peace was declared.

I lived with my mother and father and elder sister just off East Ham High Street in Skeffington Road.

On one night in particular, while sheltering in the air raid shelter during an air raid, a bomb exploded on the church at the corner of the street taking with it the first three houses, one of which was ours.

Over the next couple of days my parents made arrangements to leave London and moved to the village of Wickham St

Pauls on the Suffolk-Essex border where, luckily for us, my grandmother was a housekeeper to a person who owned quite a lot of property. My father was not allowed to leave as he was on fire watch duty and stayed with his sister who still lived in the street where they were born at No 7 Brighton Rd, East Ham.

He would visit us regularly if possible. On one occasion I was in the dog house because I had pulled all his onions up!

Getting back, our return journey started with Corona coaches before reaching London and boarding a red double-decker 101 to Woolwich. In those days the stairs went up the outside at the rear of the bus. We got off at the White Horse, but, sorry to say, the pub had been flattened and only a massive hole remained. On arriving at my auntie's in Brighton Rd we were amazed to behold tables and chairs stretching the length of the street.



Halloween Word Search

F	Y	D	E	T	N	M	B	C	R
M	T	R	E	A	T	O	R	B	M
D	R	Q	M	B	S	P	O	D	W
R	I	R	O	D	S	P	O	V	E
E	C	A	T	J	W	H	M	S	B
D	K	O	A	B	K	C	O	K	H
I	I	F	S	O	G	T	H	E	C
P	O	A	E	B	H	I	E	L	A
S	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N
Y	K	O	O	P	S	A	C	T	N
C	R	E	F	R	T	M	J	O	H
P	U	M	P	K	I	N	H	N	T

TRICK
HALLOWEEN
GHOST
TREAT
PUMPKIN

BROOM
BAT
SPIDER
SPOOKY
CAT

WEB
WITCH
SKELETON

Halloween Jelly

Why not treat your friends to a Halloween Jelly treat?

Make your jelly as normal and then pop some creepy jelly sweets in, pop them in the fridge to set.



Skeleton Card

Using a piece of black card, fold over and position your ear buds in the shape of a skeleton. Using glue, stick them to the card.

Why not send these to your family and friends for Halloween



Q What do witches get in hotels?

A Broom service!!!!!!

Q Who won the skeleton beauty contest?
A Nobody!!



Q What do birds do at Halloween?
A Go trick or tweeting.

With Halloween fast approaching, here are a few ideas to help you prepare. Why not make some creepy crawlies and hide them around the house?

Paper plate ghosts

You will need a paper plate, cotton wool, an old white pillow case or white crepe paper, Black pipe cleaners, glue and a black pen.

Use a hole punch to create holes allowing you to thread the pipe cleaners through as shown in the picture. Loop the pipe cleaners at the back so that they don't fall out. Pop some glue on the end of the pipe cleaners and then attach the cotton wool. Cut out a large rectangle shape out of the paper or pillow case and glue to the plate, carefully then cut the strips. Remember to only cut up to the plate. Draw on the eyes and mouth.



Q What did one ghost say to the other ghost?

A Do you believe in people!

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Staying safe

Autumn is a very busy time for the ElmsWild volunteers. This is the season when we cut and rake both Kiln Meadow and Lukeswood. The aim of this process – cutting all the vegetation and then raking everything off – is to reduce the dominant plants, allow seeds to germinate, and lower the fertility of the soil which provides the best growing medium for the wildflowers we want to encourage. We've been doing this at Kiln Meadow for many years and the results are now showing through, with three different types of orchid flourishing, along with many other wildflowers. We're now trying to do the same thing in Norman's Orchard at Lukeswood, and initial results look promising, especially with the variety of grasses that are now beginning to multiply.

Later on we'll be tree-planting, to fill some of the gaps at Lukeswood, coppicing the birch, and cutting the willow.

With this schedule ahead of us we're determined to keep working as much as we can so that both sites remain open to visitors and continue to provide good habitats for our local wildlife. Coronavirus doesn't make this easy, especially as the rules and regulations keep changing and it's difficult to anticipate what will happen next. So we are very grateful to the organisers of Elmsfest for their generous donation to ElmsWild,

allowing us to buy the equipment we need for safe working, especially when we are joined by extra volunteers such as our friends from Anglian Water and BT. Alongside our usual rakes, bowsaws, spades, etc., we now have disinfectant, hand sanitiser, face masks, goggles, gloves and anti-viral wipes. All tools have to be disinfected before and after use, and we have added extra PPE to our first aid boxes so that any accidents can be dealt with safely. The Conservation Volunteers, through whom we have our insurance policy, have provided us with very comprehensive guidelines for safe working during the pandemic and we are following these carefully. So a big thank you to Elmsfest for helping us out with this extra expense and allowing us to keep working for wildlife and for the village. It's so important, now more than ever, that our green spaces remain open and safe for people to enjoy.



Magic mushrooms!

Fungi are beginning to emerge everywhere, especially now that we've finally had a few rain showers. This is the time of year to keep your eyes on the ground to spot the weird and wonderful shapes that suddenly appear, almost overnight. Sometimes they pop up in unexpected places. This year we were

amazed to find some strange fungi growing out of the fallen black poplar. Earlier in the year we drilled holes in the log end of the black poplar which fell so spectacularly a few months ago. We were hoping to encourage solitary bumblebees to lay their eggs, but instead of bees we got mushrooms! It's a bit of a mystery, but we think that it's possible the bees may have carried the spores into the holes when they were investigating the nest holes, and that now the conditions are conducive the fungi have begun to grow. Nature continues to surprise and amaze us!

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk





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AROUND & ABOUT

HALF PRICE VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS

The Elmswell Allotment Holders have secured a deal for a 50% reduction in vegetable and flower seed prices from Kings Seeds.

If you would like to take advantage of this please refer to their on line 2021 brochure at www.kingsseeds.com and submit your selection, product code and cash to the Parish Clerk's office by Friday 30th October 2020.

A brochure is available at the Parish Clerk's office should sight of a hard copy be required.

Please note that this discount is on seeds only but potatoes can be purchased at the reduced rate of £5.30 per 2kg/2.5kg pack.



We have been made aware of two very recent incidents of Suffolk residents who have been contact by someone purporting to be the Police.

Protect yourself!

- Your bank or the police will never call you to ask you to verify your personal details or PIN by phone or offer to pick up your card by courier. Hang up if you get a call like this.
- If you need to call your bank back to check, wait five minutes; fraudsters may stay on the line after you hang up. Alternatively, use a different line altogether to call your bank.

- Your debit or credit card is yours – don't let a stranger take it off you. You should only ever have to hand it over at your bank. If it's cancelled, you should destroy it yourself.

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Spot the signs

- Someone claiming to be from your bank or local police force calls you to tell you about fraudulent activity but is asking you for personal information or even your PIN to verify who you are.
- They're offering you to call back so you can be sure they're genuine, but when you try to return the call there's no dial tone.
- They try to offer you peace of mind by having somebody pick up the card for you to save you the trouble of having to go to your bank or local police station.

If you receive a similar call HANG UP!

Report all scams to us via 0808 223 1133.

If you've given your bank details over the phone or handed your card to a courier, call your bank straight away to cancel the card.

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Services for October remain on Zoom.

Contact Stephen on 01473 251193 for the entry code and password if you would like to join us.

They will be led by:

October 4th Rev. Barbara Challis
October 11th Stephen Spurgeon
October 18th Stephen Spurgeon
October 25th Christine Myers





ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

It's the end of September and the end of the outdoor bowling season, such as it was!

Covid really ripped the heart out of it, as it did so many things but I'll leave someone else to bemoan those. It changed all our lives profoundly and each in a different way. That's one very versatile virus for you.

We did manage a couple more friendlies losing closely home and away to Walsham and getting hammered at Hengrave. Hammered in the soundly beaten sense, I should emphasise, although it was bad enough to drive anyone to drink! Covid rules changed again and torpedoed our home game against Coney Weston and that has been the extent of our on-green activities as a team. Roll-ups have been trundling

along in a Covid-compliant, social-distancing kind of a way so several members have managed to salvage a little from the debacle that is 2020. Greenkeeper Dick Burch has orchestrated a concerted programme of work on the green and we are anticipating a much faster one next season. Work will continue throughout the winter, at a lower level, of course, but there has been a flurry of activity before the green is re-seeded next week.

We have been given the custodianship of the bottle bank for 3 months for which we will receive payment, if we do a good job, which is the plan, of course. On my first inspection of the site I was aided by a gentleman, whose name I didn't ask, who volunteered to take a coffee machine

to the skip for us. The said machine was left at the paper-bank by some mysterious donor, 'doughnut', might be more accurate, presumably on the assumption that 'someone' would dispose of it properly. Anyway, many thanks to the unknown gent for his civic-minded act and thank goodness there are more of his kind than there are doughnuts in our village. We are blessed with more than our fair share of the good guys, in my opinion. Our photos show Phil with unofficial club mascot, Rocky, watching proceedings with spectator, Kate, and Phil, again, with Eddie and Robb, ready for a match

**Peter Edmonds, E.F.B.C.
t.07860 395720**

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the people of Elmswell, who supported me in my hour of need earlier this year. Back in July, my garden was vandalised and I was heartbroken. My dear neighbour Liza Putwain sprung into action, setting up a Just Giving page and this was publicised on Facebook. The people of Elmswell were so generous with their donations of money, that I was able to buy security cameras, so that I could feel safe again. In addition, I was overwhelmed by the many, many kind people who brought me plant and spent time helping me restore my garden. As a lifelong resident of Elmswell, I feel extremely blessed to be surrounded by a community that has rallied round to help me not only get back my garden, but also my faith in the goodness of people.

Marie Kerry

AN ODE TO SILVER LININGS

The virus came and scared us all, from Elmswell to Senegal.

Hugs and kisses were forbidden, in case in these a bug was hidden.

"Stay indoors" we were all told, just keep family in the fold.

Boredom started to be problematic, but then the games came from the attic.

Ludo, draughts and Buckaroo; Cribbage, dommies and puzzles too.

Anything to keep things sane, families start to chat again.

Phones and iPads were laid to rest, as families found new interests.

Conversation came back once more, behind many a closed front door.

And when restrictions are finally eased, let's carry on talking to each other – Please!!

by Anon



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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

At long last the local football SIL season has got underway - well, sort of !!

Our reserves have had a decent start, a great away win on season opener followed by a defeat to one of the early division favourite to go up- Reserves manager Chris Ed's suffered a leg injury & will be directing from the side lines for a few weeks.

Our first team have had a great start to the season. Following some great results against higher league opposition in pre season - their first league Saturday saw them without a fixture. Possibly a blessing in disguise as their Suffolk FA Primary cup semi final carried over from last season was scheduled for a game under floodlights in Woodbridge against a very good Leiston A side - albeit bolstered with eligible players from their first & reserve team.

Despite the set back of going a goal behind, then ELMSWELL going down to ten men , the whole squad battled out and we came away with a commendable 3-1 win , well done to every player that represented us in this cup.

By the time you read this report, we will either be crowned Primary Cup champions or worthy runners up - the final is scheduled for Weds 30th under the bright lights of Stowmarket Town FC against a very strong Melton side . Hopefully you will all know the result before reading this report.

The first team league schedule has stuttered , their first game- away to Stonham was postponed by them. 15 Minutes prior to kick off siting possible covid issues ! Really frustrating , we are all sympathetic to any covid issues but their timing was almost embarrassing on their part.

Still, obviously everyone's health is the priority - and we would like to wish everyone good health.

One last plea! As chairman of the club, I'd like to thank all our current advertisers / sponsors for their support . It costs a small fortune to run an amateur football club & without their support our club couldn't survive , thank you

If you would like to support ELMSWELL fc in any way, please don't hesitate to give me a call

Kind regards, Shaun Pratt
shaun.pratt@btinternet.com
Elmswell FC Chairman



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PARISH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

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The Government having passed emergency legislation to allow Local Government to continue within the law, councils are currently permitted to meet 'virtually' over the internet and to properly make binding decisions.

With the usual venue at Blackbourne recently re-opened, the Parish Council convened there at a suitably-spaced meeting which was made available to councillors and to the public on line using, as before, the Zoom internet video conferencing facility. The meeting was posted in the usual way, including on the Council's website, and details were clearly given as to how public attendance and contributions could be made either with a screen presence or over a telephone link if preferred. Public attendance in person was invited with advance notice and provision of contact details necessary.

7 Councillors attended in person along with 2 members of the public and Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Cllr Dr Helen Geake. Cllr Mike Friend attended on-line.

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 20th July, as approved at this meeting, are posted on the Council notice board at Crown Mill.

Planning results The Meeting noted the following results of Planning Applications, as determined by Mid Suffolk District Council:

DC/20/02446 Erection of single storey rear extension at 4 Coronation Bungalows GRANTED EPC supported

DC/20/02014 Erection of single storey dwelling...Amberlea, Warren Lane REFUSED EPC objected

DC/20/01718 Discharge of Conditions Application 0846/13 Condition 7 Former Grampian Harris Site, St Edmunds Drive APPROVED

DC/20/02513 Variation of conditions 2....Land at Kiln Farm Cottage, Kiln Lane GRANTED EPC objected

DC/20/01922 Erection of 1no dwelling... Land adjacent to Marlborough, Cross Street GRANTED EPC supported

DC/20/01999 Erection of 1 single storey dwelling... Land North of Dagwood Farm, Ashfield Road GRANTED EPC objected

Planning Applications The Meeting discussed submissions as forwarded for comment by Mid Suffolk District Council, the Planning Authority, and agreed to make no comment on Application DC/20/03026 which sought to vary condition 1 of the Approval of Reserved Matters (Approved Plans and Documents) re Outline Planning

Permission 4911/16 and Reserved Matters Application DC/18/01679 at the Crest Nicholson Site on land adjacent to Wetherden Road.

Councillors urged rejection, however, in the matter of DC/20/03539, an Application for the erection of a rear

extension, erection of attached garage, alterations to roof layout to create first floor and extension of driveway

(following demolition of garage and utility room) which is a revised scheme to that of withdrawn application

DC/20/02417 at Jayance, Hawk End Lane for the following reasons:

1 The proposed ridge height of 7446 is some 2 metres higher, along almost the whole of the length, than the original bungalow. Within the setting of the neighbouring row of 5 bungalows this will present a glaringly intrusive feature effectively destroying a well-established street scene along the very narrow lane which has always presented a semi-rural aspect.

2 The built mass presented in the proposal is out of keeping with neighbouring

properties and will dominate the immediate outlook to the serious detriment of the established pattern of dwellings.

3 The overbearing bulk of the new house will affect the neighbouring bungalow by way of an unacceptable loss of light

Mid Suffolk District Council Cllrs Sarah Mansel and Helen Geake tabled a joint written report confirming that plans have been approved to transform the former Stowmarket middle school into 'affordable homes' for Stowmarket. There will be a mix of tenure. Planning permission has also been granted to redevelop a former care home in Eye into 16 affordable homes. These developments are part of a multi-million-pound investment by the council in social housing across the district.

Meanwhile, both Babergh and Mid Suffolk have been awarded an £800,000 grant to cover 50% pf the budget for the installation of solar carports in Sudbury and Stowmarket. These will generate and store electricity and provide electric vehicle charging points. The detailed feasibility study is scheduled for Nov 2020 and aim to be complete by March 2021.

The Report mentioned that the decision notice for outline permission for 300 homes and land for a new primary school in Woolpit was issued last month. The proposed new school is to serve children from new developments in both Woolpit and Elmswell, and there will also be a small contribution towards the cost of providing a cycle and pedestrian route between the two villages. There is considerable disquiet amongst Woolpit residents regarding the process followed in determining this Application and community funding is to be sought into undertaking a Judicial review into the decision.

The outline application for 86 homes to extend the Bacon Factory development in Elmswell was discussed by Development Control Committee B in August, but the decision has been deferred for the planning department to carry out a risk assessment about the impact on the local infrastructure. The Councillors included a reminder that Locality Awards have been launched for 2020/21 and invited applications from community groups in need of funding.

Suffolk County Council Cllr Jane Storey tabled a written report which confirmed that the County Council's Bikeability team is now offering FREE cycling sessions to provide practical skills on how to cycle on today's roads. Everyone is welcome to take part - adults, families, and children. The

sessions last between 2 - 2½ hours and are aimed at those who want to cycle more regularly, whether to keep fit, to commute to work or school, or to visit friends. Further information is available from suffolk.gov.uk/cyclingandwalking

Poppy Appeal There is unlikely to be the same level of community commitment allowed in collecting for the annual Royal British legion Poppy Appeal under current circumstances. Accordingly, Councillors agreed to increase their annual grant to the cause to £150.00.

Wesley The Clerk included, in his Report to the Meeting, an update on the position at the Wesley project site on School where Practical Completion was officially marked on Friday 11th September. The remaining snag list is well in hand and includes no major items. The fitting-out is progressing, including the coffee bar kit and, crucially, firefighting equipment which must be in place before general public access is permissible. This is likely to be w/b 5th October when, if pandemic regulations allow, tours will be offered in small groups beginning with Councillors, BWMA and EAA members followed by user-groups and the general public. The general view from those who have seen the facility is favourable. The coffee shop element of the project would seem to be a welcome and significant aspect of the proposals as the new facility emerges and advertisements for staff are to be placed in the Elmswell Newsletter.

Railway Tavern site The Clerk's Report included confirmation that the area to the rear of the site is now fenced off and the new rear access to the pub will soon be secured which completes Council's obligations in this regard and paves the way for moving procedurally towards the development of the 2 schemes, affordable housing and community pub, as consulted with the village. Progress on both the Community Land Trust (CLT) and the establishment of a Community Benefit Society are painfully slow as a result of pandemic constraints on third parties, but due process is gradually gaining ground. The founder Trustees of the CLT have met with Mid Suffolk's Community Housing Enabling Officer to formalise an essential partnership in the process. Public consultation is key and, clearly, difficult under current circumstances but it is hoped that, should it remain possible to have properly managed 'open days' to view Wesley, such consultation can be grafted on to the process given the likelihood of a considerable throughput of residents attending.



Extension to the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne The Meeting noted that the Chamberlayne extension is at the roof trusses stage and there have been no major problems. Meanwhile, use of the facility continues to gradually grow back with the first significant outside-hiring taking place by way of a Suffolk Constabulary training day which some take as an unofficial seal of approval that the measures and procedures put in place are adequate. Suffolk County Council Archives have been in touch having heard that the works will provide a dedicated storage / search archive room for Elmswell. They are keen to help with advice and support in setting this up.

Speed restriction stickers Wheelie bin stickers showing a 30mph reminder graphic have now been distributed by volunteers to householders on the through-routes in the village which are often the subject of speeding traffic. The initiative has attracted favourable comment and the volunteers were thanked for their contribution to the constant drive encouraging responsible behaviour on the part of motorists through Elmswell. The Clerk was asked to look into the possibility of a third Speed Indicator Device (SID) on Wetherden Road now that the new development there has altered the layout affording visibility sufficient to satisfy the strict highway safety conditions. The recent upgrading by the Parish Council of the existing 2 units at Church Hill and on Ashfield Road has made management easier given that both are now solar powered, removing the need for a monthly battery change.

Affordable Housing The Government has previously supported affordable housing through its Community Housing Fund which has recently closed. There is a move to have a new fund provided and the Meeting agreed that this might well serve the aims of the emerging Elmswell Community Land Trust (CLT) in funding the proposed community-led affordable housing initiative on the Elmswell Tavern site. Accordingly, the support of Jo Churchill MP is to be sought for having the government funding revived.

Planning decision at Hedgerows, Grove Lane Despite objections from the Parish Council and neighbours, Outline Planning Permission was granted in June 2019 for the erection of 2 detached single storey dwellings and vehicular access at Hedgerows in Grove Lane. This decision was quashed

following a Judicial Review which found that determination was made prior to the expiration of the consultation notice period. A new opportunity is thus presented for objection backed up by certain aspects of the case raised in the Review process and the Clerk was asked to formulate an appropriate response confirming and strengthening Council's objection.

Local Electricity generation There are currently many barriers in the way of local small-scale community generation of electric power, such as from community owned solar or wind power facilities. The situation at the moment makes it difficult for communities to benefit from their own efforts to generate and sell power locally providing a cheap, clean and sustainable option. The organisation, 'Power for People', is attempting to get a new bill passed into law which would encourage and enable the local supply of electricity by establishing a statutory right to local supply. Some 161 town and parish councils have already signed up to support the initiative and Councillors agreed to ask Jo Churchill MP to join the 116 of her colleagues who are supporting the Bill in Parliament.

Auditor's Report The Parish Council is audited at three levels every year. The Chairman, Vice chairman and another councillor elected to join them conduct an examination half-way through the accounting year of all of the figures and related paperwork together with the governance structures which require proper process. This is then double-checked by a professional independent auditor at the end of the financial year whose Report goes to a

Government appointed External Auditor who has statutory powers to be used in case of non-compliance with regulation, of mismanagement, poor practice or of financial malpractice. The Meeting formally noted and approved

the Report of Messrs PKF Littlejohn LLP together with the External Auditor's Certificate and Report for the year ended 31st March 2020, stating that the Council's Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with proper practices, that no matters gave cause for concern, that relevant legislation and

regulatory requirements have not been met, and that the Auditors found no other matters affecting their opinion to be drawn to Council's attention.

Neighbourhood Plan Along with many other town and parish councils which began the Neighbourhood Plan process as soon as it was introduced in 2012, the problems which beset them as trailblazers were compounded by later multiple changes in the governing legislation and, in the case of communities under heavy development pressure, the fast-changing face and shape of the very community which the Plan sought to regulate. There was also a difficulty in maintaining momentum when many such Plans were overridden or ignored by the Government Planning Inspectorate, as witness Thurston, East Bergholt and other local communities. Nevertheless, by dint of the dedication of a small group of Councillors and volunteers, and particularly the recent efforts of Cllr Philip Shaw, a draft pre-submission Plan has gone to Mid Suffolk, marking the beginning of the due process towards Referendum, Inspection and Determination.

ElmsFest The demise of the annual village fair, held at the beginning September for the past many years and most recently under the 'ElmsFest' banner, has allowed the organisers to distribute residual funds raised from the events to village causes. Councillors extended thanks for a grant from ElmsFest of £2,000.00 towards the provision of a drinking water fountain at Blackbourne and the Clerk was asked to make arrangements for the siting and installation of an appropriate unit.

Next Meeting The next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 16th November at 7.30pm in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne or on-line should prevailing restrictions so require. If held live, the proceedings will also be open, through Zoom on-line conferencing, to all who notify the Clerk of their wish to be included. The notice of meeting on notice boards and on the Council's website, will include full details as to how to register to join. 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](http://elmswell.suffolk.cloud), and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

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.

Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb
19th 16th 21st 18th 17th

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

Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access.

**Staffed Mondays –
Thursdays 9.00am – 12.00 noon
and at other times by arrangement**

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What's On in Elmswell ?



As Lockdown is eased, Blackbourne is gradually available to the many groups, organisations and activities represented here as and when they feel comfortable with a return to meeting and within the rules which will govern how the facility is used in light of Government and other advice.

We copy here the programme of events and bookings as originally planned, but, clearly, it will be down to individual organisers to keep members informed as to when their particular meeting or activity resumes.

All of the established booking slots will be honoured, as long as there is space within the usual venue to follow guidelines. We will help wherever possible by offering a larger space if necessary and available and letting fees will not be increased if this has to be the case.

ORGANISERS – if you have news of when you might consider re-starting, do let the Newsletter know and we can spread the word.

October 2020

- 2 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 5 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Janet Brown demonstrating Patchwork.
- 7 Elmswell Exchange WI - Painting on Silk - Eileen Wells (the chance to get involved if you wish) Comp: A personal item of silk
- 8 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.
December tickets on sale
- 10 7:00pm - Variety and Spice Concert at St John's Church Elmswell
- 13 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Liza Jones, Knickers!
- 15 Elmswell Exchange WI - Group Meeting at Drinkstone Village Hall - 7.30 pm (Transport available if needed)
- 16 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 20 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Speaker: Melanie Collins from Mickfield Hosta's - 'Hosta's'
- 20 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker TBA + Raffle
- 20 BINGO at Blackbourne
Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 30 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 31 7pm Barn Dance in the Chamberlayne Hall at the Blackbourne. Organised by Elmswell Baptist Church. Dancing to Clutching at Straws. Adults £10 Under 18's £5 including a picnic style supper and free soft drinks. Tickets available from September.

November 2020

- 2 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Pip Wright talking about Lady Alice de Bryene. November 30th NB change from 1st Monday in month. 7pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Nosh & Natter,

- 4 entertainment by John Evans and friends.
- 4 Elmswell Exchange WI - The Ancient Skill of Book Binding with demonstration. Michael Holton Comp: A hard back bound book
- 10 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Vanessa Hale, Wiltshire Farm Foods
- 12 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.
December tickets on sale
- 13 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 17 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Annual General Meeting followed by Speaker / Club Event
- 17 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr. Parfitt Romania + Raffle
- 27 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 27 BINGO at Blackbourne
Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

December 2020

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Christmas Lunch
- 2 Elmswell Exchange WI - Christmas Celebrations
- 6 Elmswell Baby and Toddler Christmas Party
- 8 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Christmas Party
- 10 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.
- 11 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 18 BINGO at Blackbourne
Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

January 2021

- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.
- 11 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.

February 2021

March 2021

- 11 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.

April 2021

- 8 Elmswell History Group's 21st Anniversary meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed.

May 2021

- 13 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed. *July tickets on sale*

June 2021

- 10 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed. *July tickets on sale*

July 2021

- 8 Elmswell History Group Annual Outing – to be confirmed Details and Tickets from 01359-242601

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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)	eaa@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
Blackbourne	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
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	Marie Spampanato	mariespampanato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@abbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk	240555
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks (Sec.)	elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	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 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	
Library	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eaa@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	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powercut105.com	105
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Paula Hollings	ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 562485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
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

**IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY THAT YOUR DETAILS APPEAR HERE,
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