

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

SEPTEMBER 2020

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud



A moment in time

... see editorial



That was then...



...this is yet to come...



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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.

The chapter headings of history books yet to be written, will have an entry: 'The Pandemic of 2020'. We can predict little more than that, as we are in the middle of it. Of course, we don't even know if it is, 'the middle'. But, wherever we are between the first case and an effective end to the contagion, it surrounds us with threat and regulation and unplanned change and vast social unease.

If we are to capture a taste of our own history of the event, then there can be no time like the present. For the future, even in terms of the next few weeks and months, is uncertain. Within our new-found lexicon of, 'spikes', and 'localised lockdown', of, self-isolating', 'WFH', and, 'key workers', we know that there are, 'covidiots', who refuse to change their behaviour despite the threats, and we long for, 'covexit'. Within this chaos is our day-to-day, our new ordinary, and a snapshot is called for so that our small history can, for generations to come, inform the bigger picture of, 'The Pandemic of 2020'.

Not for the first time, it is proposed, therefore, that we freeze a significant moment in time for future reference. We did it in 1994 when the Parish Council decided to celebrate its centenary by burying a time capsule on Crown Mill where 'a collection of 4 bedroomed homes' was emerging, promising, 'Quality with Style'. With the help of the youngsters at Elmswell School,

a collection of ephemeral documents was put together and buried to show a future generation how Elmswell was at that moment. Included were a stock list from the Co-op showing the range and prices of the goods they sold; a tape put together by Radio Suffolk carrying interviews with some of the school children and prominent community members; a current fixture card from Elmswell Cricket Club and memorabilia from EFC, and contributions both photographic and otherwise from various villagers, including from Mick Powell who put the actual capsule together. A plaque marking the spot is now on the plinth of the village sign. The pledge was that it should remain buried for another hundred years...only 76 to go.

In the meantime, a Covid 2020 capsule has been donated by Seamans Builders to be interred in the garden of the new Wesley facility for which they are the main contractor. It is a neat, purpose-built stainless-steel cylinder which, when sealed, will guarantee a safe place for our snapshot of our community – our own Journal of the Plague Year.

Times have changed in the 26 years that have elapsed since our first foray into capturing a moment in history. There is very little which is not published and retained on-line and which is likely to be retrievable for the foreseeable future. However, the views and hopes and opinions and fears of we, the ordinary members of what the world would see as an unremarkable community of small lives, will not be captured.

Unless they go in the capsule!

All of the 20+ organisations represented on the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association will be invited to choose one of their number to submit a written piece,

as will other significant bodies such as Elmswell School, the Fire Station, Elmswell Library etc. These are personal snapshots of Elmswell as the writer sees it in the time of Covid, with their own view of how Elmswell will emerge given this and the other pressures which come with the relentless growth of our region. The submissions will not be published in any format which identifies the writer - not, that is, for as long as the capsule remains intact.

The capsule will be buried at the formal opening of the Wesley on a date, clearly, yet to be fixed. If you wish to address future generations with your view, do let the Newsletter know and you will be given one of the pro-forma documents on which entries are to be made.

Meanwhile, do read elsewhere of the establishment, at long last, of an Elmswell Village Archive which will house our history in a safe environment where it can be catalogued and researched. If you have any items, be they photographs, throw-away printed materials such as auction sales lists or the records of village organisation, do be in touch with the Parish Council.



CAPTURING A MOMENT IN TIME



Preparations... Katie Harrison, seven, Martin Cobbold, eight, Peter Dow, from the parish council, Mark Ellis, six, and Francesca Pookley collect items to go into the capsule
S.F.P. 21/2/94
INFORMATION about everyday life in Elmswell is to be buried in a time capsule. Residents, schoolchildren, firms and organisations have been collecting pictures, posters, payslips and Chinese takeaway menus ready to bury under a new village green at Crown Mill. The capsule was the brainchild of Elmswell parish councillors and will not be dug up for at least a century. The council itself is 100 years old on Sunday. Next year a new village sign will be placed on top of the site. A similar capsule, containing last minute radio recordings, photographs, this Bury Free Press report and pictures and details of what has been buried in the main capsule, will be placed with Suffolk record office in Bury St Edmunds. "We are filling it with posters, price lists and things that no-one thinks are worth keeping but in 100 years time it will be fascinating because the material would not have been retained," said council chairman Peter Dow.



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Evidence suggests that dogs were among the first animals to be domesticated. The belief is that they were derived from Eurasian grey wolves anything from 18,000 and 32,000 years ago in Europe or Western Siberia. Since that time approximately 350 different breeds have been "created" with most breeds having been developed since Victorian times. There are breeds for hunting, defence and protection, search and rescue, companionship, guiding, plus a host of other purposes. It is not for nothing that they are universally known as man's best friend. They actually sleep for up to 14 hours a day which no doubt is the reason behind the expression, "it's a dogs life"! A big bone of contention is that they often leave their visiting cards on the pavement or in public places and sports fields! This gives rise to much letter writing to the press but my feeling is, don't blame the dog, blame the uncaring owners. After all the dogs are only doing what is natural. The very first known depiction of dogs is beside a dried up wadi in Saudi Arabia carved into a sandstone cliff. This shows several dogs, some of which are on leashes, together with a bow and arrow wielding hunter. This group is probably 8,000 years old. The dogs bear a remarkable resemblance to the modern day Canaan breed still popular in the Middle East. Egyptians carved

images of dogs on tombs and palace walls and some mummified dogs have been unearthed clearly indicating the reverence Egyptians had for their dogs. By this time dogs were bred as pets. The Greeks also had dogs as pets as well as hunters and guard dogs. Greek art was very stylised appearing on pottery and urns making breed identification all but impossible. The Romans showed dogs on pots, wall decorations and mosaics. With these, it is possible to identify several different breeds. It is interesting that the most popular pets in Roman times were fish! A big advantage here is, that you don't have to take them out for exercise and they don't make a mess on the road! In renaissance times dogs were popular subjects for artists as the dog was a symbol of loyalty. Many paintings and portraits both religious and secular were done with dogs taking up part of the canvas. A wonderful example of a religious painting is Tintoretto's painting entitled Christ Washing the Disciples' Feet showing a small dog in the foreground. Titian's painting Venus of Urbino, shows a naked lady stretched out in a mildly erotic pose laying on a couch, again with a small dog asleep at her feet. Many sculptures from mediaeval times feature dogs, especially curled at the feet of kings, queens, and noblemen indicating man's enduring love of dogs. Interest in painting dogs continues to this very day and many people of note have created doggie pictures such as Picasso, Norman Rockwell, Lucien Freud and Andy Warhol among others. A lot of Elmswell Art Club members are keen painters of dogs, among them Malcolm Wallis, who did the Alsatian,

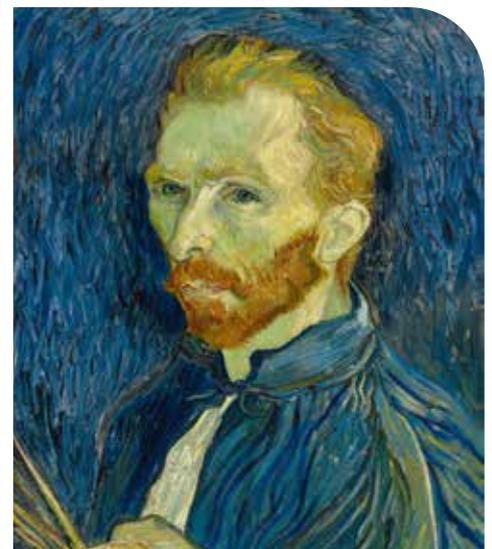


ROCKY. This was done for a lady who visited our stand at last year's Elmsfest who wanted a painting for her husband. The other picture is of ROSIE by Ted Evans. This was also done as a commission and is now in the USA. I can't think there are too many local art club paintings gracing the walls of a house in America. Both paintings were done with pastels.

John Welford 01359 240166



the Disciples' Feet showing a small dog in the foreground. Titian's painting Venus of Urbino, shows a naked lady stretched out in a mildly erotic pose laying on a couch, again with a small dog asleep at her feet. Many sculptures from mediaeval times feature dogs, especially curled at the feet of kings, queens, and noblemen indicating man's enduring love of dogs. Interest in painting dogs continues to this very day and many people of note have created doggie pictures such as Picasso, Norman Rockwell, Lucien Freud and Andy Warhol among others. A lot of Elmswell Art Club members are keen painters of dogs, among them Malcolm Wallis, who did the Alsatian,



**I consciously choose
the dog's path,
I shall be a painter.**

Vincent Van Gogh

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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

Back again with the August report.

I know we have all been dissolving at present and having to wear a mask makes it much worse. I feel for the folk who have to wear them all day in the workplace. It must be exhausting.

Well, we managed to get together as a full committee in Carol's garden on Wednesday afternoon. Phew!! Was it hot! I can't ever recall a committee meeting where we chose to only drink cold water (with a splash of squash for some). Still, we were treated to a delicious piece of Carol's fruit cake. Then it was down to business.

We have concluded that there are approx. 17 members who will return when we next meet. We agreed that we could probably socially distance safely with this number. Some members for obvious reasons

are preferring to wait until next year. There is no pressure. **We will definitely not be starting in September.** The first tours of the new Wesley won't be until the latter part of August, too close to our September meeting day to make it viable. All W.I. groups have been asked to do a Risk Assessment for members so I will need to see the venue to fulfil this request. At present I am not sure when this will be possible. Therefore, we are planning to have our **first meeting in October.** This will give us more time to do all the necessary tasks at hand. We hope that Stephanie will still do her "Supermarket Bunch" demo and I will confirm this soon. **There will be no raffle** (not possible in the current circumstances). **Likewise, no competition.** Never mind, I am sure we will survive to fight another day.

Anice is home and continuing her recovery and we wish her well. Florrie is now in Cedrus House, Stowmarket but we are not sure when and if visitors are yet allowed. We will confirm this later. As far as I know, everyone else is ticking along nicely, if a little hot.

If you need to speak to us don't hesitate to telephone either me, Mary or Carol. Our numbers are in the programme (or what should have been the programme). I will keep you up to date with all the news in this Newsletter and along with The Hive.

Keep safe, keep well and most importantly - keep smiling.

Maureen



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

Well here we are heading towards Autumn. I can't believe how quickly the year is going considering we are living in such unusual times. I hope everyone has been able to see friends and family and enjoy the weather after lockdown.

As it isn't possible to continue with our booked programme in the coming months it would seem that starting our meetings in February 2021 would be the best solution.

I look forward to seeing everyone then in the new Wesley centre.

Carol

ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

September has crept up with little warning but much to think about. Gardens are still looking good as the days get shorter. They are beginning to wind down although they do not seem to be running out of steam. The glorious colours of helenium's mingle with the brash yet beautiful dahlias. Both continue to attract bees and pollinating insects to our gardens in abundance. As children of all ages head back to school not sure what awaits them in this 'new world', the garden continues to give its best with the excitement of autumn ahead.

It will not be long before we need to find space for the spring bulbs, planting them deep in the earth to do what they do best, before breaking through to delight us with their presence. It is also a time to harvest all that has grown big and bold this year. It does make it a busy time in the kitchen with jams and tasty pickles to make, soups to prepare and freezing freshly picked beans and peas which still at their best. So much seems to have grown right 'under our noses' that with much time at home we have been able

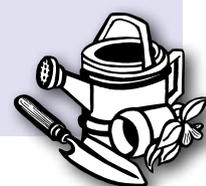
to take note of the complexity of nature and marvelling at the way our gardens have grown.

Some gardeners will be collecting seeds from plants that have been successful on their plots. Homemade compost really is a good way to know what you are putting into the soil. Sadly, there have been reports from well known horticulturalists that trusted compost may have been contaminated with weed killer inadvertently infecting the health of the soil and damaging the crop. As if we do not have enough to contend with than to have this happen to our plants. Hopefully, your crops grew well, and seeds harvested this year will produce even better crops in 2021.

The EGC Committee met last week to discuss the logistics of returning for our monthly meetings. Guidelines continue to change almost daily, and the Committee came to the conclusion that in the interest of members and speakers it would not be feasible to attempt a return until November at the earliest. Even then this meeting will be subject

to review and members will be notified if we are able to go ahead. It seems to have been such a long time without the opportunity to talk about gardens and to share together the highs and lows of the seasons. Eventually I know that we will be together as a group enjoying a packed programme of visiting speakers and places to visit. If you are not already a member make a note in your diary to join us on the third Tuesday in the month. We have been incredibly pleased to receive enquiries from new people interested in the activities the Club. It would be good to be able to welcome you as well.

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.



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Over the past couple of years, people in east and west Suffolk have been working together to improve NHS mental health & emotional wellbeing care, learning disability & autism services in the region.

We have used those discussions to plan changes that we think will make things better. We hope these proposed changes will mean that people in east and west Suffolk will be able to get the help and support in the right place for them, when they need it, to stay mentally and emotionally well.

Now, we are asking you to check our plans. We want to know if you think we have got things right. We would love it if you took a few minutes to let us know.

Visit our website between 14th September 2020 to 30th October 2020 to learn more about our plans and add your voice to the conversation.

www.westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/averydifferentconversation

Thank you, Suffolk!



ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP



The 75th anniversary of WW2's VJ Day (Victory in Japan) was on 15th August, and village celebrations of this event were quieter than for May's VE (Victory in Europe) Day, although there was some bunting to be seen. VJ Day marked both the surrender of Japan and the final end of WW2, although many allied service personnel did not return home for quite some time, after horrendous years of fighting, captivity, and maltreatment endured by them in the Far East. Extracts from our website about VJ Day are: (1) David Hawes of Cooks Rd moved to Elmswell in about 1945, and he can just remember the big VJ-day party held in the old Church Hall – "huge jellies in old enamel washing-up bowls"; and (2) Gordon Goymer, originally of Wetherden Rd, attended the village school from about 1937 to 1948 - he remembers "the VJ celebrations in August 1945 took place on Church Meadow behind the Rectory, with a fete, sports, and a big fancy dress parade". On a more personal note, Nick's parents first met at the VJ Day celebrations in Sudbury, his mother was a nurse and father in the RAF so, in more ways than one, that day has a lot to answer for in the Chamberlin family!



Darwin's Tutor, Henslow of Hitcham

Until we can meet again for our monthly talks, you may be interested

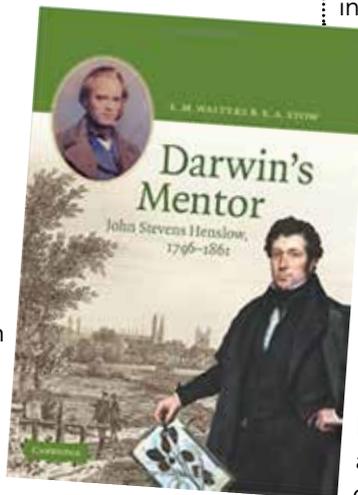
in the current exhibition at Stowmarket's Museum of East Anglian Life (MEAL) about Charles Darwin's tutor and mentor, Professor John Henslow of Hitcham (1796-1861).



Back in February 2015, local historian Edward Martin gave us an extremely interesting talk on this gentleman. Now, a group of volunteer researchers from Hitcham, that very long village in 'high' mid-Suffolk, have been working with the museum's staff for what is MEAL's next major project, giving us more details about Henslow's impact on 1800s rural Suffolk and the Rick Burning Riots.

When unable to go himself, Henslow suggested that naturalist and geologist Charles Darwin take his place as captain's companion on HMS Beagle, and supported Darwin by receiving botanic specimens he sent back from his hugely important five-year worldwide voyage (1831-1836).

Whilst continuing to care for Hitcham's parishioners as their vicar and teacher at the village school, Prof Henslow also taught Queen Victoria's children, helped found Cambridge University Botanic Garden and later, Ipswich Museum on its original site at 13



Museum Street which opened in 1847 (now Arlington's café). This is well worth a visit, when it re-opens after Covid restrictions have eased, if only for its gorgeous Victorian two-storey building with its wide curved oak staircase.

During the course of his 25 years in Hitcham, Henslow turned his parish upside down, applying his scientific knowledge to the antiquated and conservative farming methods of the local farmers. He increased their prosperity and that of the poor farm labourers, as well as starting a school and an institute of adult education. He led outings through the local countryside, and would sometimes take the whole parish on the train to London, including one trip to the Great Exhibition in 1851. Apparently, the entire village emptied on these occasions, travelling by cart and on foot to Stowmarket Railway Station, and then on to London.

It is said that on holiday at Felixstowe he realised the fertilising properties of coprolite nodules in the cliffs there, and interested two local farming brothers so much that they set up a fertiliser processing factory in Ipswich docks. Their name was Fison and, as the saying goes, the rest is history.

As an inspirational teacher, Henslow's influence is felt nationally and internationally, so do visit MEAL's exhibition (10am-4pm, Tues-Sun; until 8th November) to find out much more about this truly fascinating Suffolk man. Contact the museum at 01449-612229, or www.eastanglianlife.org.uk

Old Bank House - apologies to Annette Finter for mis-spelling her surname in July's newsletter, but thanks again to her for giving us those interesting snippets about her early Elmswell life. We hope there'll be more to come from Annette, as and when she's had time to write it all down for us.

**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.

**Elmswell
History
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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

Well here we are heading towards Autumn. I can't believe how quickly the year is going considering we are living in such unusual times. I hope everyone has been able to see friends and family and enjoy the weather after lockdown.

As it isn't possible to continue with our booked programme in the coming months it would seem that starting our meetings in February 2021 would be the best solution.

I look forward to seeing everyone then in the new Wesley centre.

Carol



It's hard to believe that we're now nine months into 2020, but Sunday 6th September marks the date ElmsFest should have taken place for one final time. Clearly things were just not meant to be this year, so over the last few weeks the committee has been engaging with the community to donate money to local good causes. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, we have already funded five children's sessions at Wild Play, as well as provided funds for materials to be made into an outdoor stage for

Elmswell Primary School. The photos show the completed stage and our handover of funds to Heidi and Denise at Wild Play.



This month, we are delighted to have offered funding to Elmswell Parish Council for the installation of a drinking fountain at Blackbourne Community Centre. This offer has been gratefully received by Councillors and we are

working with them to have the fountain in place for the new football season. The remaining funds will be granted to the firefighters for their charity pot, as this undoubtedly must have taken a big hit this year. For a full breakdown on the funding issued, you are welcome to get in touch – there is nothing to hide! Email bookings@elmsfest.info.

So, as previously mentioned, on Sunday 6th September we welcome you all to an "all eyes to the sky" event where you only have to venture out into your back garden! Sadly, we have just been made aware by the RAF that they have cancelled all of their planned flypasts for September, however we do have one final display that we think you will love! We can't confirm the time just yet, but expect this to take place early afternoon. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for further details.

Once again, thank you to everybody who has helped us in any way, shape or form to make ElmsFest a huge success – we couldn't have done it without you.

Chris, Brittany, Mike & Soló

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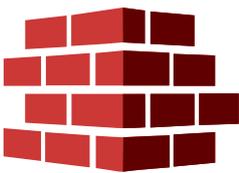
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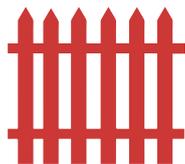
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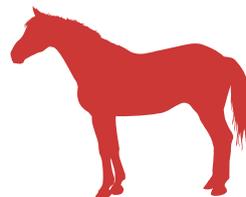
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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

It is nice to see people enjoying our services again. Reservations have been popular since they restarted.

We have also had good feedback from our Select and Collect service where we select some books to be collected. It can be a way to find new authors from genres you enjoy reading.

If you need to print or photocopy you can now do that at the library again. We can print and photocopy A4 documents. We are only taking card payments currently. If you need A3 services it can be done at Stowmarket Library.

Computer access is back too. We are making it safe to use by only having 1 computer available so distance can be maintained. We also clean between customers. This means you need to contact us to book beforehand. Sessions are slightly reduced to 50 minutes. Occasionally we may need to prioritise people who have no internet access at home and who need it for essential purposes such as for universal credit.

This month's online audiobook group book is *The Innocent Wife* by Amy Lloyd. Copies are available through Libby/overdrive. The book is about a young woman who becomes obsessed with the case of an alleged murderer in a true crime documentary. 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

Open times

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 11am – 1pm and 3pm – 6pm
- Wednesday: 3pm – 5pm
- Thursday: 11am – 1pm and 3pm – 6pm
- Friday: 3pm – 5pm
- Saturday: 11am – 1pm
- Sunday: 11am – 3pm

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 Innocent Wife by Amy Lloyd
3pm on Monday 14th September (2nd Monday of the month)

The Keep in Touch Community Café

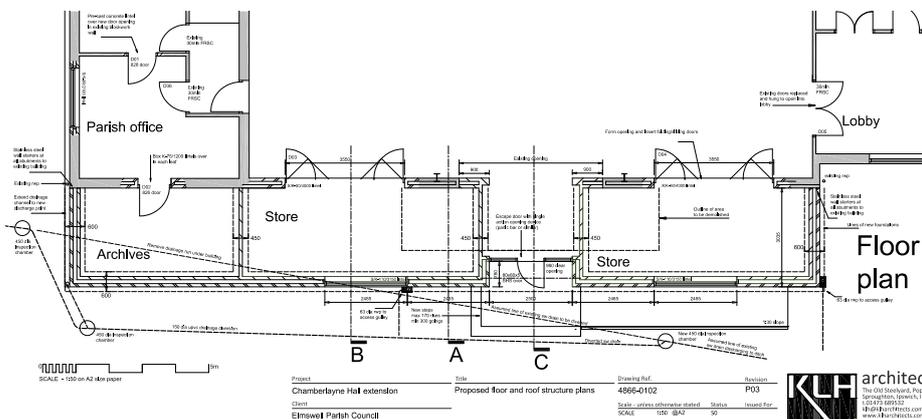
Cancelled until further notice.

Lego Club

Lego ideas will be posted on Facebook every Sunday.

Elmswell Library Friends Group AGM

Postponed until further notice.



HELP BUILD A VILLAGE ARCHIVE

The extension works at Blackbourne include a home for the material which is currently held in several locations on behalf of the Village Recorder, the History Group, the Amenities Association, Parish Council and various individuals in the community and which charts the history of Elmswell over the years.

The Elmswell Village Archive will safely house all of this material in one secure place and it is hoped that it can all

then be properly recorded, catalogued and made available, including on line.

The plans are established and the work is, as pictured here, well under way.

Perhaps you can help:

- There is some valuable record on video tape which needs transferring to a digital medium – do you have the skills and equipment to do this?

- There will soon be safe storage for historical record by way of pictures and written material if you would agree for it to be stored centrally in the Archive – do you have anything which you would like preserved and available?

Contact the Parish Council Office on 01359 244134
clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

AROUND & ABOUT

Our Rainbow Windows competitions winners, Mylo, Michele Russell, Frances Hall, and Matilda & Edward nominated the local MyWISH charity and Banham Zoo to receive the prize money which was promised towards supporting NHS and others working through the pandemic for the public good.

Here are the responses from those good causes.



zsea
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 Connecting Communities to Nature for Conservation
 Registered Office:
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 Banham, Norfolk, NR10 2JH
 email: info@zsea.org

Peter Dow
 Elmswell Amenities Association
 c/o The Blackbourne,
 Blackbourne Road,
 Elmswell,
 Suffolk,
 IP30 9UH

Dear Peter,

On behalf of the Zoological Society of East Anglia, we would like to thank you for your generous donation we recently received.

During the temporary closure of both our zoos, Banham Zoo and Africa Alive!, due to Covid-19 we have lost over £1.5 million of visitor income which would have fed and cared for our animals through to early next year and no doubt we will lose more income still.

Unlike other businesses, for us the reality was that we couldn't turn the lights off and go home, we have animals to feed and keepers to pay, it costs £25,000 a week to feed and care for our animals. With no income from visitors for 15 weeks and limited Government support, donations like yours are genuinely and greatly appreciated, especially knowing that everyone is facing uncertain and challenging times right now.

Despite the temporary closure, our team of dedicated animal keepers continued to provide vital care for our animals. The support, donations and messages from the public have been absolutely fantastic in keeping the team moral up.

Once again, thank you for your generous contribution, helping us to get through this financially difficult situation and we're delighted that we were able to welcome back visitors to both ZSEA zoos from 4th July.

Yours sincerely
*huge thanks from us all,
 Claudia x Gary*

Gary Batters & Claudia Roberts
 Joint Managing Directors
 Zoological Society of East Anglia

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 www.banhamzoo.co.uk
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my WISH charity

Registered Office:
 Mr P Dow
 Chairman
 Elmswell Amenities Association
 The Blackbourne
 Blackbourne Road
 Elmswell,
 Bury St Edmunds
 Suffolk IP30 9UH

Oak House
 Hardwick Lane
 Bury St Edmunds
 Suffolk
 IP33 2QZ
 01284 712952
 fundraising@wsh.nhs.uk
 mywishcharity.co.uk

Friday, 31 July 2020

Dear Peter,

On behalf of My Wish Charity please pass on our thanks to the wonderful winners of your rainbow windows competition, who so kindly chose us as the beneficiary for their prize. We had a look at their creations in your newsletter, and they certainly do all look worthy winners.

Thanks to the generosity of such people we are able to make a huge difference, especially in these extremely challenging times, to enhance the care and support of the patients, their loved ones and staff at the West Suffolk Hospital and the community services it supports.

Once again, we cannot thank them enough for supporting My Wish Charity.

Best wishes,
 Sue
 Sue Smith
 Head of Fundraising

If you would like to opt out of further communications from My Wish Charity please email fundraising@wsh.nhs.uk. Thank you.

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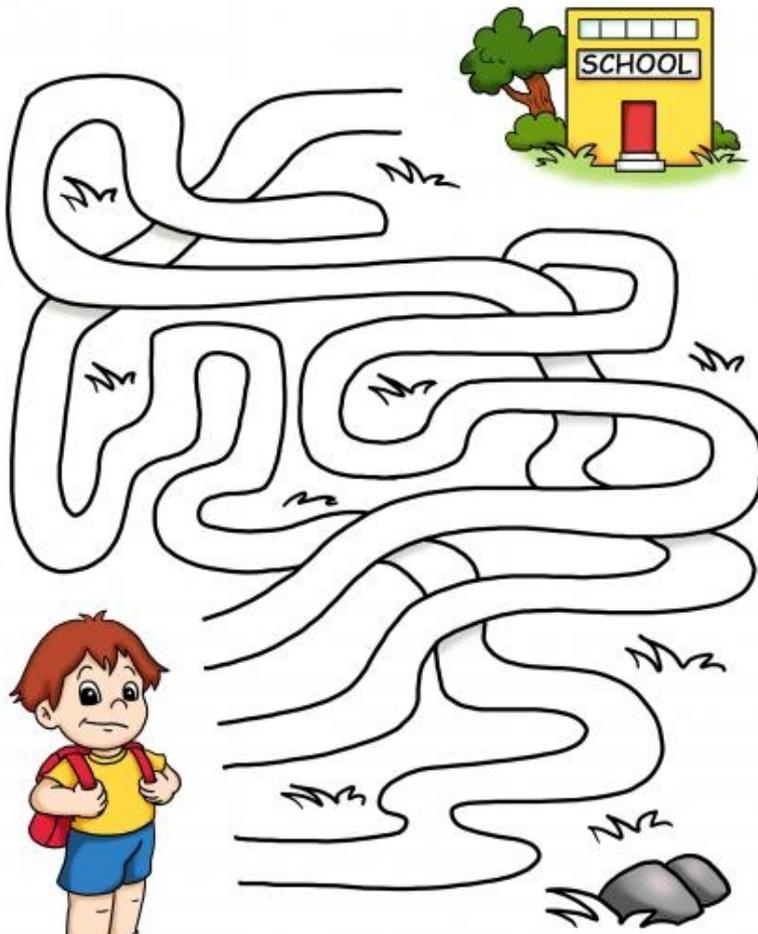


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ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Hello everyone in our wonderful village of Elmswell.

As I was preparing to write this month's article, I noticed several Facebook posts making comments such as "Can we reboot 2020 and start again?" and "Hope series 2 of 2020 turns out better than series 1."

It has been a tough year so far and many of us feel tired and fed up with it all. We are frustrated at being unable to get on with normal life and feel powerless against the unseen foe that is COVID-19. Our confidence at St John's Church lies in our knowledge that God remains unchanged and all-powerful. I believe that we will look back in surprise at this season and see that much good came out of it. Of course, we have already seen that as so many in our community have gone the extra mile in helping others. Remember that we at St John's are willing to offer support during this time. Even a simple phone call or socially-distanced chat in the garden can help enormously.

But on with the latest news from St John's ... it is great that we are able to meet back in our village's iconic church building! Our COVID compliant format is working well. You are very welcome to join us on Sundays at 10:30am. Alternatively, you can still access the service from home via our web site and Facebook page. If you cannot get access via the internet and would like a DVD of a service, please get in contact.

September is going to look a little different. On the first Sunday in the month (September 6), the 10:30am service will have an all age flavour. On the other Sundays, there will be an online Sunday School at 9:30am via Zoom for 20-30 minutes. Our main service at 10:30am will be a little more adult orientated, but, of course, everybody is welcome at

all our services. We are especially looking forward to the 27 September, when we be hearing from a guest speaker from TearFund, a Christian charity passionate about ending global poverty and heavily involved in bringing aid to Beirut.

If you would like your children to be part of the Zoom Sunday School, please contact us (details below).

Finally, don't forget

- The "Questions about Christianity" page on the St John's web site – well worth checking out if you want to know more about the reliability of the Bible, who Jesus is, what Christians believe, how God can transform people and the thorny topic of suffering.
- We continue to stream services of Night Prayer online at 8pm every Tuesday and Thursday.
- Prayer: The prayer tree is available in the churchyard to hang prayers, the online Prayer Wall is also available at www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk and our Prayer Chain team would be delighted to pray for anything you have on your mind. Contact details are below.

Remember, our "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble" (Psalm 46:1). May God bless you all.

Sunday:

10:30am Service in church and streamed on Facebook. September 6 is all age worship.

9:30am Sunday School via Zoom (not September 6). 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 an anniversary, a personal event, or any other special occasion. Alternatively you can simply make a donation.

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

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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

AUGUST 2020 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 6 Congratulations Hilda on you 100th Birthday, from the Kent family.
- 30 in memory of Viv Butcher - remembering you on your Birthday, wishing you were here. But God needed you more. We miss you every single day. Love you for ever and always. From Mum, Keith and all your family. xxx.

SEPTEMBER 2020 SPONSORSHIPS

- 5 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 6 Bernadine and Sid on your 1st Wedding Anniversary. Lots of love from Nanna (xx), Gill (xx) and Louise (xx).
- 8 cherished memories of Dora Lily Handyside, a very dear Mum, Nan and Gt Nan. "Remembered with love".
- 10 in loving memory of Gary Ferguson on the 20th anniversary of his passing. "Always in our thoughts".



- 13 in loving memory of my dear Mum, Olive Rose Dalton.
- 14 Lesley Manning - in loving memory. Love, Colin. xx.
- 16 in loving memory of William Victor Manning.
- 18 in memory of dear Tess, who fell asleep 18th September 1999. Love from Margaret, Ron, Jodie

- & Muffy. xxxx.
- 23 for Ricky Woolnough - 32 years ago you left us Rick. We love and miss you every day, for ever in our hearts to stay. "God Bless".
- 28 Margaret and Noel Clarke, on their Wedding Anniversary. "Remembered with great

- affection by all their family".
- 29 in memory of Betty Peachey who passed away 31 years ago.
- 30 in loving memory of Jane, "Always in our thoughts". From all the family.

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



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

In these very uncertain times it is difficult to plan too far ahead as circumstances seem to be changing overnight one minute you can travel to and return from certain overseas holiday destinations then before you know it there's a spike in covid 19 infections and you've got to self-isolate for 14 days on your return. Even areas in the UK have been subject to mini lockdowns again, when is it all going to end and life get back to some sort of normality.

All we can do is to follow the guidance, wearing masks where necessary, maintaining social distancing, and keeping up our personal hygiene try saying the Lord's Prayer whilst washing your hands it takes roughly the time that the experts are recommending for hand washing.

None of this can possibly compare to what has happened in Beirut where on top of dealing with the pandemic the people have suffered the extra tragedy of the terrifying explosion in the dock area that killed and injured so many people, our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected. If you feel that you would like help in some monetary way an English resident of Beirut who was interviewed on our local radio station suggested donations to the Lebanese Red Cross would ensure direct assistance to those in need.

We at Elmswell Baptist have following a survey of our fellowship decided to suspend services and meetings at our

church for the foreseeable future, we are carrying on with our Sunday Zoom service and midweek chat on zoom, contact Tony on 01359 241541 if you would like to join us for ether zoom meeting.

Our Preachers for September will be:-

- 6th September**
Rev Graham Ross
- 13th September**
Stephen Spurgeon
- 20th September**
David Wilson
- 27th September**
Stephen Spurgeon
- 4th October**
Rev Barbara Challis

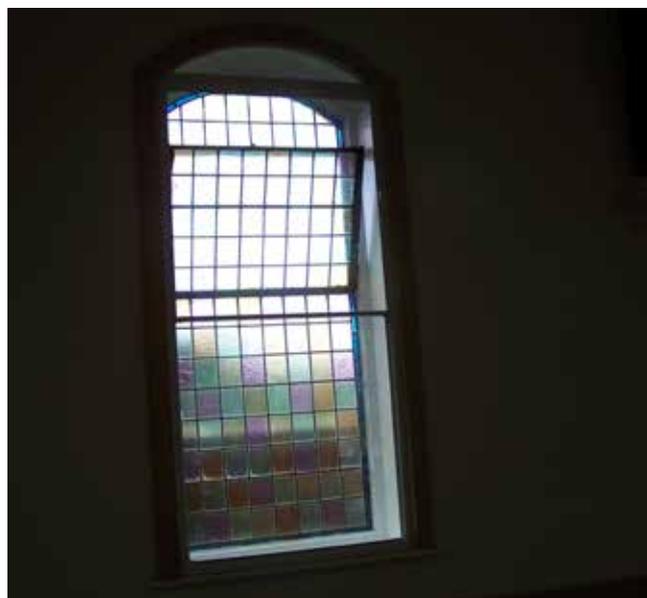
If you need any more information about us and our activities contact Tony our Church Secretary on the above number or go to our website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk

Many thanks stay safe

Dave Hollings

WESLEY EMERGES...

The refurbished chapel space Showing the new double doors into the newly acquired garden space at the rear the original coloured glass leaded windows have been retained and restored with secondary glazing fitted 2 maximise heating efficiency and now framed with an ash architrave in keeping with other statements in the knew hole



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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Join us for Apple Day – in 2021!

Normally at this time of year we would be inviting everyone to our annual Apple Day at Lukeswood. This year, of course, is different, and for the first time since we started our community woodland and orchard in 2010 we are unable to hold this event.

In the absence of the real thing, we've been looking back over the years and remembering all the past celebrations, so we thought we'd share our Apple Day Retrospective with you. Our photos show that we have always been lucky with the weather, bar the odd rogue shower. They also give a glimpse of the huge variety of stalls and activities we've hosted over the years. We've had tombolas, lucky dips, archery, wood carving, nail bars, face painting, apple ducking, games of all sorts, choirs, treasure hunts, local honey, chutney and preserves, master composting, jewellery, mosaics, wood bashing, den building, stained glass, crafts the list goes on!

One constant is the delicious refreshments on offer, latterly provided by the capable ladies of the Trefoil Guild, who spend days (or weeks?) beforehand making cakes, biscuits and other delectables for us to enjoy.

It wouldn't be the same without a sit down with a cup of tea and piece of cake.

Another regular is our Apple Information Stall, where we invite visitors to bring fruit from their gardens for identification. We also have a fascinating display of local orchard fruits, including some rare varieties, which are always a great talking point. It's a good opportunity to have a chat about orchards and fruit growing, and if we can't answer your queries we know a man who can.

We're already planning next year's event and we would like to invite everyone now to come along and join in. It's a lovely afternoon out for all ages.

We would also like to extend an invitation to all village organisations to bring a stall to our Apple Day. All pitches are free, and it's a great opportunity to raise funds for your local club or charity and have some fun at the same time.

We know there are lots of very talented people in our village, so we're calling on all you craft experts to bring your wares to Apple Day. We really want to make it an event to showcase local arts and crafts, so please come along and

show everyone the wonderful things you make and do.

After so many disappointments and cancellations this year, let's make Apple Day 2021 a celebration to remember!

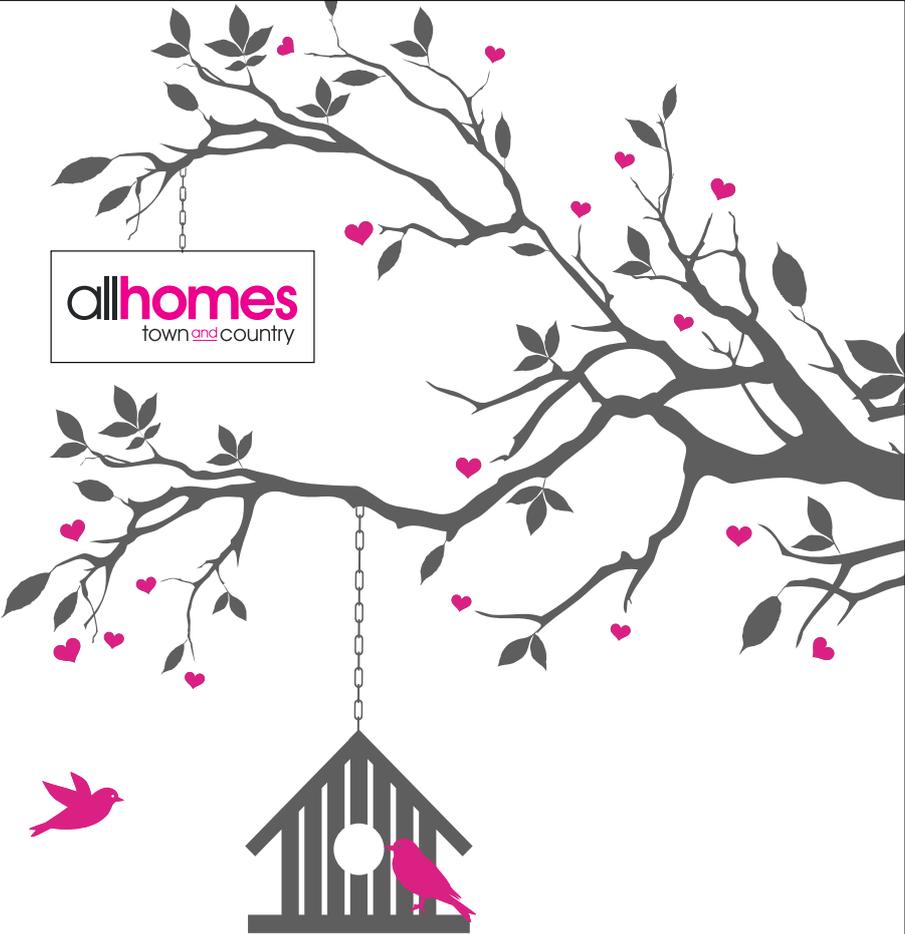
We want your windfalls!

Do you have any excess fruit or vegetables that would otherwise go to compost or in the brown bin? At this time of year lots of apples and pears end up on the ground, and there are often one or two overgrown courgettes lurking in the vegetable plot.

If so, they can be put to good use as fodder for the animals at Tostock Animal Parks. If you have any suitable fruit or veg please take them to Tostock Animal Parks at Fieldgate, Off 1088, Tostock, IP30 9NN. You can contact them at olivia@tostockanimalparks.co.uk or through John Russell at johnr1949@gmail.com. They have alpacas, llamas, pigs, goats, sheep, donkeys, emus and much more, and are open daily from 10.30 to 16.30 – well worth a visit. Please help give the animals a treat!

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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HILDA KENTISH CELEBRATING HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

It didn't seem possible a few weeks ago, in current circumstances, that we would be able to mark the occasion of my mother achieving her first century but thanks to family and friends we brought the inside to outside.

What an amazing achievement, 100 years, and what a lot she has encountered since being born in Stratford, East London on the 6th August 1920 just after WW1 ended when David Lloyd George was Prime Minister and George V was the reigning monarch.

She was 19 when WW2 broke out. She survived the blitz and bombing raids in East London, remembering the hardship of the war years and what it meant to lose many friends.

She married my father, Bob Kentish, in 1944 before the war ended. They moved to Elmswell in 1976.

Hilda worked in the Mace Stores and the Helping Hands Club for many years.

Hilda has lived through:

The stock market crash that led to the Great Depression.

Motor cars replacing horses.

Women winning the right to vote

Decimalisation.

Man landing on the moon.

Computers and the digital age.....

And the list goes on and on....

From Spanish flu to Covid 19...

100 years - an amazing achievement.. Happy Birthday Hilda.

WESLEY EMERGES...

Left: The outside showing the cantilevered roof with all of the aluminium and stainless steel in place, the glass walls and the safety traffic hoops. Right: The coffee shop taking shape.





Graham and Gary having a pre-match chat



ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

Last month I was bemoaning the fact that we had not bowled a wood in anger and, strictly speaking, we still haven't! Being a good-natured game, even when it is for league points, you can probably imagine how free and easy friendly matches are. Extremely, yes! Well done the bright spark at the back, at least someone is paying attention!

We have had a couple of very convivial friendlies, away to Coney Weston and at home to Old Newton and we have the return matches and home and away to Walsham-le-Willows and Hengrave still to look forward to.

Both matches were played in a wonderful spirit with teams clearly delighted and relieved to get back in harness and determined to wring every last drop of enjoyment out of the occasion. Weirdly, and a little worryingly, I even enjoyed donning the 'match uniform' of greys and whites. (We decided to play in our league dress in order to give the occasion the full respect it warranted and make it feel as much like 'the real thing' as possible) We had to make a lot of concessions to Covid, of course, so it couldn't be 100% authentic but we wanted to recreate it as closely as we could. The hardest part was not being able to shake anyone's hand let alone giving someone a welcoming or congratulatory hug!

All the equipment was pre-sanitised and the air hung heavy with the aroma of antiseptic hand-gel and only home players were allowed to touch mats, cots and score-boards. Which is lovely when you play away, by the way. To have all the menial tasks done for you feels like having servants!

Many players feel that the necessary concessions detract from the spirit of the game to such an extent that they have simply written the season off and

refuse to take part. I can see their point but the majority feel that anything is better than nothing and that is my personal view, too. Everybody hopes and prays that we can return to normal next season but, in the meantime, we will do as much as we safely can.

This month, then, I have actual action shots for you

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

After the very extended preseason break, March through to July, all the players & officials are glad to be able to grace the hallowed turf at Grove Lane & kick the ball about.

We welcome many new players to the club, with both the First team & the Reserves pleased to add players to their ranks. Along with the training regime, both teams have enjoyed great results from pre season friendlies.

The first team gained promotion to D2, The management team William & Jed with experienced head Wozza also helping out- tested their squad with opposition from D1 & Senior sides. The effort & results were amazing and testament to the football style the managers are asking the players to adapt - you may not get points for preseason but if the lads can carry it in to the season then it promises to be a great season.

Christopher & Richard have a strong & enthusiastic reserves squad, again with the addition of strong new players they have enjoyed a great preseason & look forward to the season start

As usual, the start of a new season brings the financial pressures, it costs a small fortune to run an amateur football club for a season. We very much appreciate the support of our current club sponsors, Thankyou- but we are always looking for additional support & if you would like to discuss all aspects of sponsoring part of our club then please don't hesitate to contact me for a chat.

Kind regards, Shaun Pratt
shaun.pratt@btinternet.com

Elmswell FC Chairman

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COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

David Barker Linden Croft Hawk End Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9ED	01359 241135	david@linden-croft.co.uk	Vice chairman of Council
Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Footpath Officer Poor's Land Charity Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640 07860 395720	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	
Mike Friend 22 Mill Gardens ELMSWELL IP30 9DQ	01359 241699	mike.friend@easidoor.co.uk	Transport Officer Elmswell Amenities Association Newsletter report co- editor
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk	
Sarah Mansel Ashcroft House Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	07860 829517	sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	<i>Also serves as Ward Member on Mid Suffolk District Council</i>
Fred Pallett Maple Cottage Warren lane ELMSWELL IP30 9 DT	01359 244144 07771 962441	fjp@oilgasassociates.com	Chairman of Council
Sue Roots 7 Warren Close ELMSWELL IP30 9DS	01359 240164	sue2955@hotmail.co.uk	
Mike Schofield Minerva Fairmead ELMSWELL IP30 9HT	01359 241430	mhaksch@gmail.com	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Philip Shaw East View Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HG	01359 241192	philipjshaw@btinternet.com	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Safeguarding Lead



Village user-group members and contractors on the site of the old Wesley hall as work begins.



Councillors and community representatives at the hand-over of the Wesley site to the contractors, Seamans.

Across the Clerk's Desk



The Parish Council does not normally meet in August unless an urgent matter arises. Nevertheless, the work of the Council continues through Individual councillors and the Clerk's office. The major schemes in which Council is currently engaged continue, despite the difficulties and setbacks presented by the lockdown situation which has seriously affected supply of labour and materials where the building projects are concerned and continues to act as a serious inhibitor in dealings with other agencies. Our situation as local workers together with the implementation of sensible precautions has allowed the office to continue to be open on every day since the virus problem struck. An overview of activity provides a useful update.

Wesley As pictured elsewhere in the magazine, work at the chapel site on School Road has, following three weeks of down-time at the beginning of the crisis, proceeded at a slow but steady rate, although well behind the original schedule. The Council's purchase of the Railway Tavern site next door has allowed for the provision of fenced garden area on what was pub land to the rear of the Chapel and a new glazed door is now in place. This work was, clearly, not anticipated when the project began and has itself caused a delay in completion. Meanwhile, the other refurbishment work is within a few days of practical completion and the new-build facilities adjacent are at the final stages of fitting-out. As mentioned above, the process has been seriously affected by

the lead-time on certain building products and a shortage of skilled tradesman as the contractors have had to deal with several projects which are seriously out of sequence leading to a telescoping of demand for craftsmen and labourers alike.. Nevertheless, the long-awaited viewings for, initially, Councillors and members of the Blackbourne and Wesley Management Association should be safe and feasible within the first two weeks of September. Wider public access will depend on circumstances.

Blackbourne The same problems of delay have beset the scheme at Blackbourne to extend the Chamberlayne Hall giving more much-needed storage space, a larger office and a room in which to house a village archive, as featured elsewhere in the magazine. Nevertheless, the oversite is now complete and brickwork has begun in earnest. The constraints of lockdown have allowed flexibility in using space within the facility and this should allow for the internal works to proceed without interrupting any user groups.

Railway Tavern site In order to confirm the site boundaries on the ground and to be able to properly assess the potential, the site has been cleared by Wayne Jarvis & Son, the Council's preferred contractor for such works. Three skips full of fly-tipped rubbish were disposed of together with some of the derelict lean-to pub outbuildings and a stand of very high leylandii trees to the rear of the Wesley chapel. The site is now to be fenced off leaving the pub and

car park in use and still managed as it was under Greene King's ownership. An area behind the chapel is now fenced off to provide a garden well separated from the pub activities. The registration of the Elmswell Community Land Trust (ECLT) is almost complete and, when circumstances allow, public presentations and meetings will invite and encourage all Elmswell residents to join as ECLT Members to work towards the provision of community housing on the site. Meetings are arranged with officers of Mid Suffolk towards possible co-operation on any such housing project.

Next meeting The September Council meeting is scheduled for Monday 21st at 7.30 in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne. All necessary precautions are in place to allow the attendance of up to 20 members of the public who will be asked to register to ensure a safe capacity is not breached. The meeting will be accessible via the Zoom conferencing facility as before with details appearing on the official Notice of Meeting. The public are, as above, welcome and encouraged to attend one way or the other and there are opportunities on the agenda for public input. The agenda is posted on the Council's noticeboard at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op adjacent to the Post office. It is also available, with supporting papers, on line at [elmswell.suffolk.cloud](https://www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud).

*Peter Dow CiLCA
Clerk to the Council*

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

clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk
Tel. 244134



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.

September 2020

- 1 Over 55's Club No Meeting
- 2 Elmswell Exchange WI - Making the Best of a Supermarket Bunch - Stephanie Lester Comp: A small arrangement with 3 flowers & greenery. 4 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 4 7.30pm - Nutz and Boltz concert at St John's Church Elmswell
- 7 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. An armchair walk of Ipswich waterfront by Ipswich TI.
- 8 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Jane Marshall, craft evening
- 10 Elmswell History Group meeting, 7.30pm; Venue and speaker to be confirmed. *Annual SUBS due*
- 15 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Speaker: Chris Bell – "Weather Forecasting"
- 15 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing
- 25 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 26 Elmswell Baby and Toddler Nearly New Sale
- 27 10:30am - Harvest Sunday with Tearfund speaker followed by bring & share lunch at St John's Church Elmswell
- 28 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon

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, 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

STOP PRESS

Already back at Blackbourne:

Sarah's classes - stretch and flex /spin /boxercise /legs bums and tums/ bodyblast...details at sarahjane. fitness@outlook.com

Karate with Lewis – find details at info@greatheadma.com

Coming soon **Pilates with Suzanne** - for information email suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk

& watch this space...

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: September 22nd, October 27th, November 24th

Contact us on **01359 244 134** for all Amenities Association business, Newsletter and adverts.

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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
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@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk	240555
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks (Sec.)	elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	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	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	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powwercut105.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

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