

*'Like a friend  
dropping in'*



# The Elmswell Newsletter

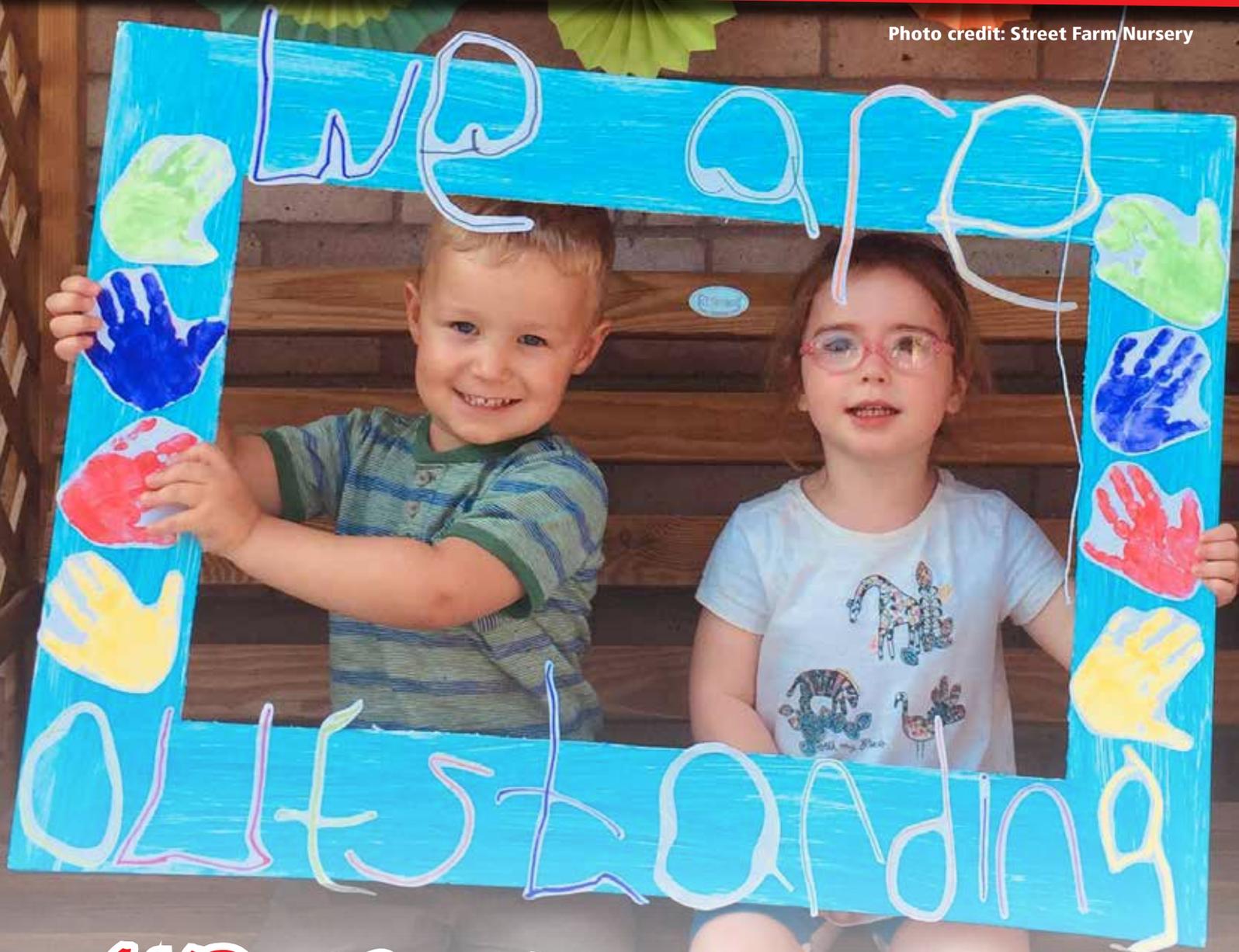


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**MAY 2020**

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Photo credit: Street Farm Nursery



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

## Here we go again ... Lock up the vicar!

*For it's only a few years back, well, 1349 to be precise, when we lost 3 vicars in one year to a pestilence which history remembers as The Black Death, probably deservedly so as it killed off at least a third of the population of England. Both Thomas de Chalkhyll and Richard Spicer died in the same year as their immediate predecessor to the Elmswell Benefice of St John the Divine, John de Clare.*

Across the kingdom, clergy of the time suffered 45% mortality from 'The Plague' because they were, in effect, the front-line heroes of their day as the first, and for many of their poorer parishioners, the only, port of call when the bacillus struck. Without, 'the science', that informs good practice in today's attendance of the sick, the local cleric took his life, literally, in his hands as he laid them in benediction on a palsied succession of the dead and the dying.

As we optimistically speculate upon the number of weeks until we are allowed to begin what promises to be the slow, painstaking crawl back to some semblance of normality, we can trust that the knowledge and skills of today's world will deliver us faster than was the case in the Olden Days. In one form or another, plague was endemic in Britain until the mid-1660's. There were precursors of today's, 'lock-down', famously the village of Eyam in Derbyshire which, again with the Rector at the forefront, self-isolated en masse and successfully protected neighbouring communities by staying quarantined for 14 months during which time it lost more than half of its population, all of whom were buried by the village gravedigger who, unaccountably, survived.

Less well known is the case of Needham Market whose residents, riddled with plague in 1663, chained their access roads closed for the following 2 years during which time two thirds of its inhabitants died but nearby Stowmarket escaped infection. Chainhouse Road remains there as a reminder, as does The Causeway, derived from, 'The Corpse Way', which lead to Barking Church where the victims were buried.

No need in our shiny modern world for such local heroics. With the electric internet and its wi-fi wonders we not only know, day by painful day, how and where the current plague is spreading, but we know what we have to do to frustrate its relentless creeping pitiless progress across our land. We know how this compares with those of other lands as we are fed endless analysis of the deaths and sit mute before the waves of loss and misery of those close to those deaths.

We are treated to daily doses of hindsight, masquerading as insight. We gasp at the transgressions from common sense at so many levels – from the barbecuing kids in the Royal Parks to the Presidential suggestion that a

bleach-and-Dettol cocktail might be worth a try. We try to keep our own spirits up and to cheer up others with endlessly inventive ways of ticking off gobbets time.

With this constant and instant world-wide dissemination of where we are and why comes a central control of behaviours which was unknown in the days of Eyam and the Needham Market quarantines. There is, clearly, a number-line between lockdown and livelihood with, at one end, everyone safely cocooned indoors and at the other end no-one working to keep society functioning. Between the two extremes there is a happy medium, but one person's happy medium is another person's 'house arrest'. One person's happy medium is another person's 'economic paralysis leading to the end of society as we know it.' Someone has to decide where we are in the 'lives v livelihoods' debate.

The decisions are made in London. In 2003, communicable disease control was centralised to the Health Protection Agency and we lost local public health laboratories. In 2012, Public Health England was given overarching control of this vital sector but was too poorly resourced to pursue a thorough brief and 'efficiencies' have since compounded the shortfall in effectiveness. Proudly, 'savings', of over £500m have been made over the past five years on the purchase and readiness of PPE... five years ago, who even knew what PPE was?

Rules made in London are made from the perspective of Londoners. This editorial has often railed against the most centralised system of government in the western world and how, despite the window dressing of, 'Localism', we are subject to regulation shaped by urban pressures and attitudes. Hence a 'social distancing' policy driven by the sweating hordes on tube trains, the packed picnickers on Hampstead Heath or hundreds of heaving pubs with no gardens.

Unfortunately, this mind-set includes a hedonistic, pig-headed, me-me-me arrogance which requires Draconian measures, tight controls and strict limitations. More sympathetically, the reality on the part of a young family of limited means stuck in a high-rise flat must be stifling and relentlessly debilitating. The imperative to get out and breathe fresh air and run and commune and see something other than four walls must be

overwhelming. It has to be repressed.

The repression is currently country-wide. Under the relatively stress-free less urban environment of – let's say, Elmswell, for example – that repression can seem heavy-handed and extreme. We are good law-abiding folk and if we're told to stay indoors we do so. If we are told to close down our community get-togethers we concur without argument. If even our churches are deemed to be too dangerous to enter, we stay away.

There is the hint of a light at the end of the tunnel. There are warnings that it might be an approaching train, but we leave that aside. The buzz words are, 'relaxation', 'end-game' and, 'exit strategy'. There is the whisper that there could be regional variations introduced, for someone has pointed out that EFC does not quite attract the crowds to Blackbourne drawn to the big city football clubs. They have suggested that a sparse population need not work as hard as do the conurbations to maintain a sensible distance from each other. Someone has noticed that many of our pubs have gardens with well-spaced tables and that, if we are told to queue supermarket style for our pint, we will comply without the need for a touch of the Constabulary's taser. If restrictions remain, as is suggested, until Christmas, we will happily make sure the crackers are at least 6 feet long, aware that a vaccine is a long shot and that careless walk costs lives. But there is a suggestion that the number of graphs may have peaked.

We realise that our legislators cannot rely on the common sense of the general population... but we are, statistically, not the general population. They, in turn, realise that it is not tenable to keep the country kettled-down and economically-anaesthetised for much longer, that the cure could end up being worse than the disease.

In considering a next step, we plead for a voice in the debate. We are at one with Albert Camus, the writer whose books appear in the background of simply everyone's video interview. In his classic 1947 novel, *La Peste*, he opines:

*"true of all the evils in the world is true of plague as well. It helps men rise above themselves."*

If we're given the chance, that is.

Last month's publication on-line proved to be successful and brought in enquiries and comment from a wide new readership.

We have since canvassed all of our 36 volunteer distributors and there is overwhelming support for resuming door-to-door deliveries with the team appropriately kitted-out & augmented by a few new faces during the current strangeness.

Our thanks to all concerned, and a reminder that we still publish on line at:

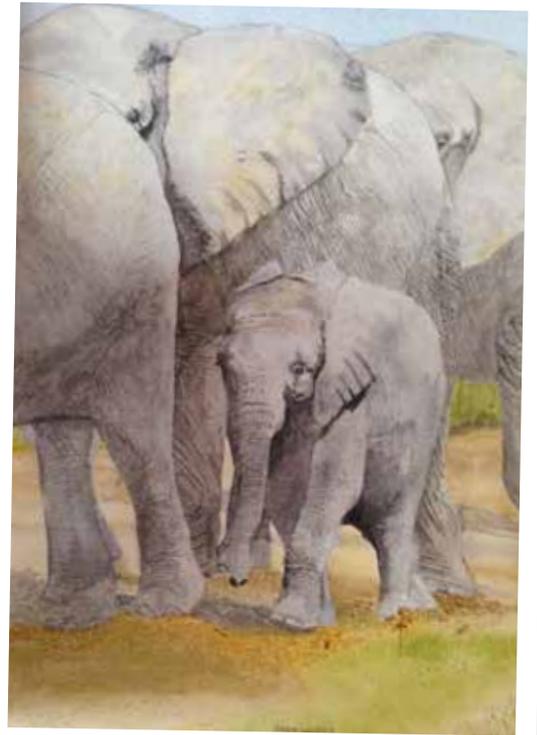
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## ELMSWELL ART CLUB

It's Tuesday morning, the day after Easter and I am sitting here at my dining table writing this piece for the May newsletter instead of being with friends and colleagues from the art club up at our regular weekly get together at the Blackbourne. Hopefully the lockdown will be over soon but not before it is judged safe to do so. It is a strange feeling being at home and not doing a bit of painting or sketching amongst like minded people. We, each and everyone of us, will cope with the lockdown and isolation in their own way and there has been a lot of contact between members to ensure all are safe and provided for and we can all remain positive. Lots of members have kept up their interest in art by painting at home, I for my part have spent a lot of time in the garden, the rewards of which will hopefully come later with fresh veg and produce. The motivation to paint will return no doubt during a long spell of rain. A couple of unexpected benefits of the isolation policy is the reduced levels of noise from traffic and aeroplanes and less traffic on the roads leading to less pollution. The A14 is quieter even though there are plenty of lorries still trundling along.

Artist are of course used to working on their own and so the art club meets are as much a social get together as a creative session. Apart from which it is nice to get together and compare styles and receive and offer advice in a relaxed and informal way. When you visit the studios and ateliers of some of the old masters and impressionists you realise how small and often cluttered some of these places are and you can understand that when they did get away to meet friends they tended to let their hair down and lead riotous lives..... not that we do that sort of thing here in Elmswell!



Our paintings this month hopefully will bring a little cheer and a smile during this very stressful time. Greta Davies painted the happily dancing penguins in watercolour and the calf elephant enjoying the protection of the adults in the herd, was one I did myself, also in watercolour.

Everyone in the club send our heartfelt thanks to the amazing dedication of doctors, nurses and all key workers who are working to help those afflicted by this dreadful virus. Our sympathies go to all those suffering and all those who have failed to make it through and their families.

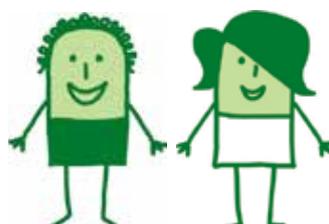
*John Welford 01359 240166*



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**If you hear a voice within you saying, 'you are not a painter', then by all means paint, boy, and that voice will be silenced.**

**VINCENT VAN GOGH**

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## ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

As one of the many organisations in the village I am sure that most village residents are finding it hard to cope with the current lockdown situation. The most frustrating of all must be queuing outside our local "Coop" to buy the bits and bobs which keep us going i.e. fruit and Veg bread and milk to name just a few items and the daily newspaper.

The older generation can look back to the time of rationing when food was available to all based on your coupons in your book and your family size.

Home Delivery isn't a new thing (No Tesco Asda Sainsburys van rushing around the village no need to book a time slot). All you had to do was fill in your order book take it to your local shop or hand it to your Coop bakery roundsman who would return one week later with your order and collect your second order book for the following week

**On looking through our photographic records which have been collecting dust from the past we have selected a few from 1998 onwards long before social distancing and coronavirus was ever thought of.**



- 1 Muriel King helping Bill Farrow on one of our trips – this one to see the floats at the famous Spalding flower festival
- 2 The Autumn Fayre as was – with Grant Elliston (also as was!), Sheila Owens and Brenda Tullett running our famous Tombola stall
- 3 One of our first music sessions at the newly opened Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne in 1998 – this is the Tom Smith Band
- 4 And the previous hall, the Memorial Hall, staged a nativity play enacted by our local children.



If and when we can escape from our four walls the future must look brighter as we still have a full card planned for 2020. If you are in need of a holiday we still have a booking to Tenby planned for the end of August so please register your interest now so that we can confirm it.

Hopefully when we are allowed to have a Social Gathering we plan to have a Party at the Blackbourne when all the local organisations can join in.

*From all the committee at the Over 55's Club (241002)*

## ELMSWELL EXCHANGE SOCIAL CLUB

As we are currently in lock down, of course we are not meeting at the moment.

We are all trying to fill our time in different ways rather than meet in our usual way. I would like to say that I have learnt Mandarin, painted several water colours and written my first novel! Sadly, that is not the case but I have cleaned and sorted many cupboards, spent time working in the garden and spent time cooking.

I appreciate being able to speak to people on the phone, keep in touch with emails, FaceTime my grandchildren and apparently master Zoom so I can attend a coffee morning! Waving to people and Thursday nights clapping for the NHS have all become important features of the week!

As a non driver, I appreciate all the shops in Elmswell and their staff as I have been able to purchase all I need to keep me going at this time. We are fortunate to have places to walk where it is easy to observe social distancing. I feel this is one of those rare times, when not being in the first flush of youth is an advantage! We don't have to worry about home schooling or entertaining lively children and haven't got to work from home at the same time as this is all going on!

At the moment we don't know when clubs will be able to meet again. We look forward to our speakers, and outings and the pleasure of all being together again.

Until then keep safe and if any member needs anything please let me know.

*Carol - t. 242 884*

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### ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

Unfortunately, due to the current health emergency, our April talk did not take place, and our committee has decided that we cannot meet for the next few months, i.e. until further notice. So, certainly our 14th May meeting has been cancelled, but after that we will just have to see how things are, in these uncertain times. Meanwhile, we hope you will all keep as healthy as possible, and we look forward to meeting again as soon as we are able.

We have taken advantage of this quieter period of time at home to catch up with downloading a backlog of items onto our website, which should be of particular interest to our newest villagers.

#### **Our most recent such additions have been as follows:-**

- Our booklet *"A Marker for the Millennium"* (now out of print), giving a brief history of Elmswell up to the year 2000;
- Albert Welham's 1970's happy memories of living in Yew Tree Cottage, Hawk End Lane, having moved there from Essex; his wife was a teacher at Beyton School; and
- More information on the Pye family of Pye's Timber Yard in Ashfield Road, and a 1932 newspaper cutting giving the obituary of Robert Stephen Pye.

#### **Ideas to do while in "lockdown" to assist future Family Historians**

Go through your old photographs (which we all have tucked away in numerous boxes) and name the people, places, and dates to the best of your knowledge. This will be of invaluable help to the people who come after you when they want to research their family history and ancestors.

**For further information about our History Group, please visit our website – [www.elmswell-history.org.uk](http://www.elmswell-history.org.uk) – or contact our Secretary, Stella Chamberlin on 01359-242601.**

### ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON W.I.

Like many other groups in the village, we are unable to meet at present. A good percentage of our members fall into the vulnerable category and are in isolation at home. Those who aren't are doing their best to help others. The phones have been busy which I suppose is appropriate considering we first started out meeting in the old Telephone Exchange. Have we, so far, learned anything from what has befallen us. Yes, of course, we have. It doesn't matter how old you are, you continue to learn something new every day.

Firstly, we realise that our community and others around us are full of kind, charitable folk who blossom when their is dire need. Secondly, we see how innovative and hard working are our local food shops and suppliers. Local plant nurseries, pubs, bakers all pulling out the stops to help us and keep going at the same time. We all wish them well.

Thirdly, we discover that however catastrophic our situation there are always a few who will take advantage of the weak, steal from the needy and behave in an appalling way. No change there then. **Most of all**, we learn that our NHS, so often the target for criticism, is wonderful. There are many who owe their lives to them, whilst they are putting their own lives on the line in these desperate times.

This year was to be our **West Suffolk Federation's 100th birthday**. Big things were planned. A special meeting on April 2nd in The Apex with guest speaker Paul Martin. We were all looking forward to this. There were many other events to look forward to in the coming year, all cancelled. In September, we hope there will still be a special service for members in St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmunds. All the W.I.'s in Suffolk West will parade their banners around the Abbey Gardens and then into the church prior to the service. We have never had our own banner. This year, thanks to the skills of our "ace" needlewoman and crafts person, Lesley Clarke, we will. I am including a photo of the finished banner and I am sure you will agree it is a work of art. We are proud of her and the banner.

In the meantime, a word of advice to all our ladies and the Elmswell community. Many people are likening our current situation to the Second World War. It's not !!! In those times we all knew when the enemy were coming. There were the sirens to warn us and they also announced their arrival with more noise than anyone can imagine. This is different. It is silent and you have no way of knowing how close you are to the virus. So please, everyone, stay at home. Do without some of your favourite things. Use the volunteers for shopping. If you all do this, we will all meet again. If that sounds familiar then I own up. I stole it from the Queen !



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## ELMSWHEELIANS 2020

I do hope everyone is keeping well and fit in these difficult times, but sadly, I have to remind you all that cycling in a group is currently off the agenda.

I will keep things under re-view, but it looks very unlikely that we will be on the road again for some while.

The one piece of good news, as I understand it, is that you can cycle in ones and twos for exercise reasons, and I have certainly seen lots of cyclists of all ages going past my house in the last few weeks.

And maybe this is good for another reason ..... this new-found way for many to exercise, and keep fit, might be temptation to become an Elmswheelian.

### **Future Rides :**

As there is no point in producing an organised programme at the moment, all I can do is remind everyone of our existence. We are an informal group of like-minded individuals who enjoy cycling, at a normal pace, and not for long distances.

Typically our rides vary between 12 and 20 miles depending upon whether we are doing an evening ride or day-time ride.

We always welcome new faces. There is no membership and nothing to pay. Just turn up, and join a group that will make you welcome.

We do ask, however, that you are aged 16+.

All our rides start from Abbots Warren in Church Road, and invariably finish at "The Fox" for well-earned refreshment.

I just look forward to being able to bring you a plan of action.



**Take care and stay safe.**

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

## THANK YOU

I would like to say a massive thank you to Peter and Elmswell Parish Council for coming to the rescue and donating PPE for myself and fellow carers. This has allowed us to keep the elderly and vulnerable of our lovely village safe throughout this time.

Many thanks for all the generosity of the parish council at this unprecedented time,

*Debbie Redit  
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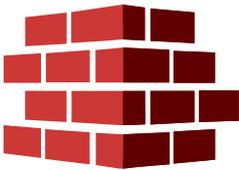
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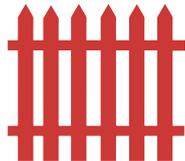
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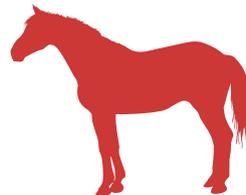
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## ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

I hope you are all getting a chance to enjoy the sun and that spring in well and truly here.

Baby bounce sessions have now started on Facebook and will be posted around 11am. Each session will be 15 minutes long and is a range of nursery rhymes which hopefully will be enjoyed. Each week a few excerpts will also be posted to our Instagram account.

Each week there is also a short book related quiz that is ideal to do with a cup of tea. Answers are posted a few days afterwards.

The book displays are also still happening although in a slightly different form. This month is going to be authors who have had books selected for award longlists. This will include showing what we have from each author and posting links to where you can read more about their books and more about the awards they were longlisted to get more inspiration for the next book to read.

As mentioned last month due dates have been extended and fines will not increase over the period we are

closed. I know many of you have been worrying about that and please make sure anyone you know who might be worrying about it also is aware. If you have any questions the best contact currently is Suffolk Libraries Customer Services on 01473 351 249 or email [help@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:help@suffolklibraries.co.uk)

Our eLibrary service is available. Here you can download ebooks, listen to audiobooks, read newspapers and magazines, listen to music and watch films. There are instructions on how to set these up on the Suffolk Libraries website [www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/elibrary/](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/elibrary/)

While we are closed we will also be posting daily to Facebook. This includes information about Suffolk Libraries, Baby Bounce session videos, Lego ideas, tutorials of how to use the eLibrary services and other things that might be interesting like links to storytellers doing stories for children and stories for adults. Our facebook page is [www.facebook.com/ElmswellLibrary/](http://www.facebook.com/ElmswellLibrary/) and our Instagram page is @Elmswell\_Library

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 11am every Tuesday.

#### 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.



**SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2020**

Contact: [chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris.wiley@hotmail.co.uk)



## ELMSWELL BROWNIES

Elmswell Brownies have been completing activities from the Brownie programme & sending in evidence to the leaders. Until badges are available again girls have then received certificates of their achievements.

They have also been taking part in a 'virtual sleepover' organised by a Scout Group in the north of England they are hoping to be a part of a record breaking sleepover with guides, Brownies, rainbows, beavers, Cubs, scouts and explorers from all over the UK. They are encouraged to sleep in an alternative location in their homes and gardens. I think there are many families around the village who's tents have made an appearance in the garden or who have lost areas of homes to a make shift den!

We hope all the girls are staying safe & if any one is looking for different things to do with their children follow Thedwastre District Guiding page on Facebook where we have been sharing ideas from the Girlguiding UK page.



# Brownies



# Pot of Gold at the end of the rainbow?



**Win a cash prize donation to the  
NHS related charity of your choice!**



All around the village,  
windows are showing  
artistic tributes to the NHS  
and other  
essential workers



By way of rewarding these efforts, the Newsletter is offering cash prizes by way of donations to an NHS or similar support charity of the winners' choice to the best examples submitted to our panel of judges.

**There are 4 categories,  
each with a prize of £25.00:**

- From artists aged 5 years and under
- From those aged 6 – 10
- From 11 – 16 year olds
- From 17 to infinity and beyond

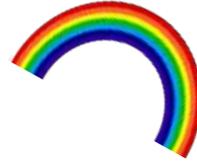
- 1 Simply put pens / crayons / felt tips / paints / collage...any artistic medium to paper
- 2 Stick the results in your window
- 3 Take a picture and send it in to: [eea@elmswell.org.uk](mailto:eea@elmswell.org.uk) or post the original, or a photo, to EAA, The Blackbourne, IP30 9UH
- 4 Make sure it is with us by Friday 15th May and that we have your contact details – email preferred.

*We will publish a selection of entries  
plus the all-important winners*





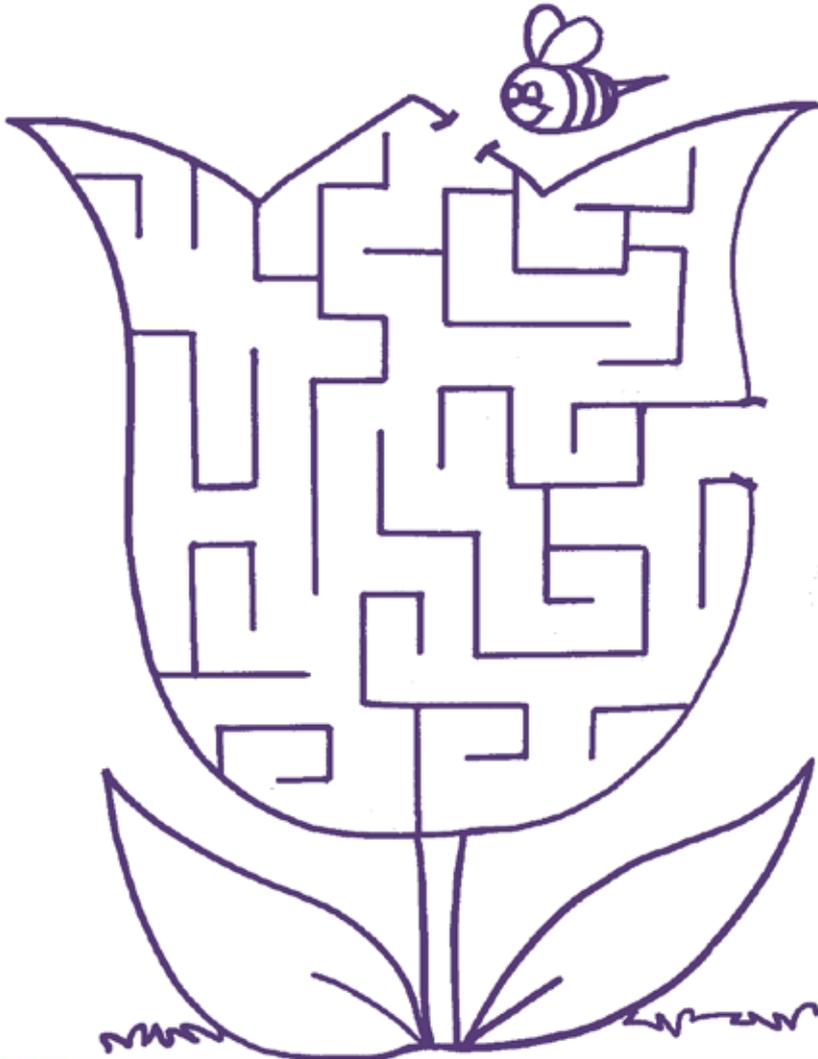
# SPRING



## Why not explore your senses this spring

Using natural objects such as flowers, leaves and sticks.

You could create water trays, colourful ice cubes or even your very own perfumes!

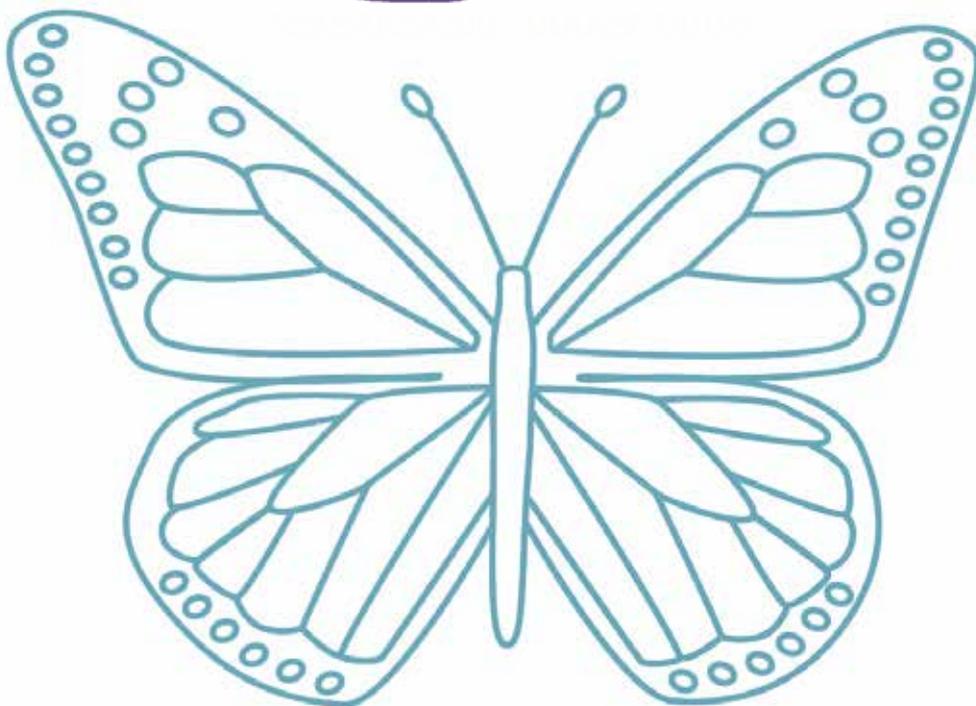


## Activity idea!

Head outside and go on a natural resource hunt.

Bring them in and see what creations you can make!

Can you make a funny face?  
Or a self portrait of yourself?



This page sponsored by



# COVID19 COMMUNITY SPIRIT



## Lockdown is in full swing and the community spirit in our village is still very much shining through

**Throughout April we have –**

### **Provided various help for our neighbours –**

whether this be in the form of a friendly telephone call to those isolating, providing food supplies, a prescription run or a trip to the post office. Please make use of your road contact as they are more than willing to help in these challenging times.

### **Leaflets –**

have been distributed throughout the village to provide further details on what help is available in Elmswell during COVID-19. This leaflet is to provide reassurance with regards to using your road contact, information on the telephone befriending scheme, and details our volunteer prescription group.

### **Prescriptions –**

the Woolpit prescription team have carried out daily rounds to ensure those isolating are provided with doorstep deliveries. We have now teamed up with the Elmswell Pharmacy to provide the same service. If you are isolating and are in need of a prescription please call either pharmacy and ask for your prescription to be placed into the Elmswell delivery box.

### **Gatehouse Foodbank –**

Elmswell have raised over £200 for the Bury St Edmunds Charity by purchasing food and plants that are available at the end of the week.





### Easter Egg Hunt –

after the success of the rainbow trail through the village, many houses have displayed Easter egg drawings so that children can carry out an Easter egg hunt in these very bizarre times!



### VE Day –

On Friday 8th May, we mark 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. Why not decorate your house in red, white and blue and have a picnic in your front garden to celebrate? A lockdown street party!

### Food parcels –

Trussell Trust Food Bank and the Happy Food Company have kindly provided us with food including fruit, vegetables and rice. This has enabled us to distribute these as food parcels throughout the village. If you would benefit from a food parcel or know someone who would benefit, please do get in touch on 0333 335 5349.

### Clap for key workers –

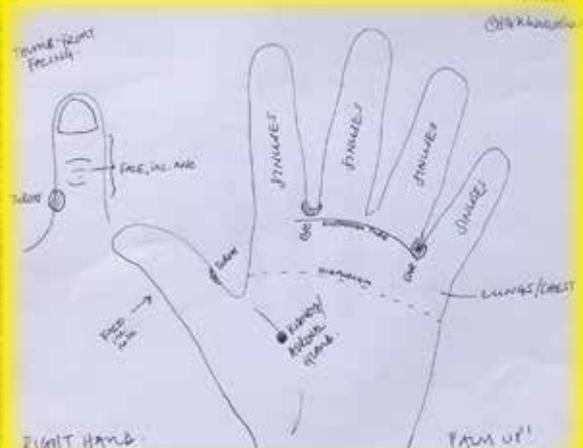
we will continue our clapping for key workers on a Thursday at 8pm. Why not join us in our appreciation?

### Elmswell Virus Support Group –

the Facebook group is growing steadily with over 500 Members. This is a great way to communicate with the village during these challenging times and various members have stepped forward to offer visual support on techniques such as reflexology and breathing.

**We're not quite sure when life will return to "normal" but let's keep looking out for each other in Elmswell and keep on smiling!**

*Yvette, Kelly, Jen and Rachael*



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## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Another month into lockdown - I hope everyone is safe & well , it's a strange time for everyone & during these exceptional circumstances there's probably hardly anyone in the world that has not been affected in some way.

So it puts everything into perspective, health & wellbeing is paramount. However, we all need a release & other interest to keep our spirits up . The sporting world has been thrown into turmoil , & the biggest issues is the "not knowing" when normality will return . So all we can do is keep soldiering on and hoping for the best outcome.

Last month I reported with the sudden end to the Elmswell FC season, the first team were particularly hard done by - probably the best season for many years facing the prospect of being "null & void". However, good news came through the local press that as we were sitting second in our division, the SIL have decided to promote the top two teams from each division , so although we have not had official confirmation it should see our first team promoted to D2 when football returns, nothing less than they deserve in my opinion .

Suffolk FA have announced, our cup semi final will be played out as a pre season game. Once again we have not had official confirmation- however we assume this is correct & very much appreciate the chance to play out the cup and hopefully to reach and win the final (could clash with Christmas Day !)

Hopefully our new double page spread in the monthly Elmswell News Letter has caught the eye! This season has had a monthly editorial from both team managers, fixtures & results, along with a big presence of much appreciated club sponsorship - as an amateur sporting club, we have to raise our own funds to operate through a season .

The current support from sponsors is very much appreciated- indeed we could not operate without it, thank you. In return for sponsorship, we offer as much exposure as possible, combined with a colour advert upon our page.

So here I am cap in hand, if you would like to support EFC through sponsorship, whether it be for a football, equipment or a kit, every penny is appreciated . & we would love to have your company advert grace our pages.

Please contact me for any questions you may have about our club. Please also stay at home for now, and please stay safe & well.

Kind regards

Shaun Pratt

07494 864 231

[shaun.pratt@btinternet.com](mailto:shaun.pratt@btinternet.com)

Elmswell FC Chairman

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 Tuesday - 11:30am - 9pm  
 Wednesday - 11:30am - 9pm  
 Thursday - 11:30am - 9pm  
 Friday - 11:30am - 9:30pm  
 Saturday - 11:30am - 9:30pm  
 Sunday - Closed





## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

### What on earth has happened to our logo, this month?

Read on to find out ...

What comes to your mind when you hear the word Church? For many people in Elmswell, the answer is obvious. We think of the iconic scene of St John's standing on the hill at the edge of the village. In the recent days of glorious Suffolk blue skies and sunshine it has been a magnificent sight to behold.

However, the origins of the word Church have nothing to do with the building. The word Church actually comes from the Greek word ecclesia. The word means a gathering of people who are passionate about something. In other words, the Church is the people not the building. Yes, of course, we love the beautiful, historic building of St John's, but the Church is something alive, active and passionate about Jesus Christ and all that is good.

If you look at the logo above, you'll notice how the people are currently separated from the building. Despite this, we remain Church and we remain close together. Don't panic, we are observing the appropriate guidelines of social distancing, but the logo above deliberately shows the people remaining close together. Why? Because our wonderful congregation has remained close together, despite being physically separated in different houses.

The Church is described in the Bible as the body of Christ. He is our head and we are all individual members. Just as the parts of a body work together to keep it healthy, so too have members of the Church continued to look out for one another.

Over the last few weeks, St John's has continued to meet online - not just on Sundays, but also at various times in the week. Naturally, we meet to worship God, but we also meet to encourage one another and make sure

we are doing okay. What's more, the Church is not inward looking. We are also out in the community, as much as we can be, helping where we can, alongside the wonderful Elmswell Virus Support Group. And if we cannot get out, then we are busy phoning people and praying for the village.

This is what Church is! People who are passionate about the Lord Jesus, passionate about his world and passionate about the people he has created. We want to be here for you during this difficult time. If you need any prayer, a simple phone call, or practical help, please do get in touch. And please do join us online. All the details are below.

Tue 8:00 pm	Night Prayer (Compline)
Wed	Home Groups
Thu 8:05 pm	Night Prayer (Celtic) <i>after cheering keyworkers at 8pm</i>
Sat 9:00 am	Prayer Meeting - via Zoom
Sat 10:30 am	Coffee and Chat - via Zoom
Sun 10:30 am	Sunday service <i>starts with 10 minutes of all age worship</i>

**Revd Peter Goodridge**  
[elmswellrector@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellrector@gmail.com)  
**01359 240512**

**Revd Ernest Okeke**  
[elmswellcurate1@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellcurate1@gmail.com)  
**01359 241624**



*St John's Coffee and Chat on Saturday mornings*



*Craft from Online Messy Church*



## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

30th April 2020 marked the end of the 26th year of floodlighting St. John's Tower, a year in which we raised £820. This brings the sum accumulated since we started to a magnificent £21,199.

Over the years floodlighting the tower has become an integral part of village life. As well as raising funds for St. John's, it has become a very popular way of enhancing the profile of the church itself. As "taker of the money" I would like to say, once again, a huge public THANK YOU to all those people who have sponsored the lights during 2019/20, and before. Your support is hugely appreciated. St. John's really does benefit from your generosity; and many parishioners have told me how much they enjoy seeing our beacon on the hill as they make their way home along the A14 late at night. Thank you all.

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, which helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church. You can choose to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation. For the summer months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight. A night's floodlighting costs £5.

Cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

Please note as well, for the foreseeable future, the church tower will be illuminated on all evenings when there are no personal sponsorships, this to support and remember those affected in whatever way by the Coronavirus pandemic. And for this can I say another huge THANK YOU to all those who have so brilliantly helped support this gesture financially.



**MARCH 2020 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED**

31 in memory of Roy Pavitt, on what would have been his 75th Birthday.

**MAY 2020 SPONSORSHIPS**

- 1 1 in memory of John Ray.
- 2 in memory of John Ray.
- 3 in memory of John Ray.
- 4 in memory of John Ray.
- 5 in memory of John Ray.
- 5 Jane Goodchild. Remembering you on your Birthday. Love Colin. XX.
- 6 in memory of John Ray.
- 7 in memory of John Ray.
- 7 in loving memory of Rose Emma Manning.
- 9 remembering Rachel Louise Finch on her Birthday.
- 9 remembering Roger Dalby on his Birthday. "Love and miss you from all the family".
- 9 with love for my best friend. xxxx.
- 14 remembering Percy Pleasance, a dear Dad, Grandad and Great-Grandad, on his Birthday.
- 21 remembering a dear Nana, Rene Stiff. "Miss you. God Bless". Louise & Brian. x.
- 21 in memory of a dear Mum and Nana, Rene Stiff. "Never forgotten". Monica, Philip & family.

- 23 to remember and thank all the Elmswell Fire-Fighters who have served their village and community so well.
- 24 Happy Big Birthday Mum. "99" years young !!! Lots of love from Gill and Louise. xx xx.
- 25 treasured happy memories of Ted Rookard. Love from All of his family. xxxxx.
- 28 Dean Goodchild. Remembering you on your Birthday. Love Colin. XX.
- 30 in memory of Mark Jones. "Always in our thoughts". Mum & Dad.

**All bookings and payments please to :-**

**Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)**



**ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH**

Elmswell Baptist Church

Well here we are in lock down or isolation or social distancing or whatever terminology you want to use all hoping to stop the spread of

the Covid 19 virus. We at the Baptist Church have tried to carry on with our Sunday worship without actually meeting together, we have an order of service compiled by our Secretary Tony as we would on a normal Sunday it offers prayers, bible readings, a short message or sermon written by Stephen or the Deacons, suggested hymns that we find on "You Tube" which we can sing along to or just listen to in the comfort of our own homes, in a word it's a DIY service which we have found to be just as fulfilling as our regular services.

Its amazing what people are doing to support those of us in isolation and those going the extra mile to support the NHS, walking laps of their garden "well done Captain Tom", those making scrubs / crocheting mask straps/ making visors/collecting hand creams and moisturizers/providing food for NHS staff. Its wonderful that people are coming together to support the NHS, well done one and all.

As Tony wrote last month we will not be meeting until June the earliest unless of course the Corona Virus restrictions are lifted earlier. In the mean time please follow the guidelines laid down by the government and stay safe.

Visit our website at : [www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk](http://www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk)

e mail [cockant2@btinternet.com](mailto:cockant2@btinternet.com) or telephone 01359241541 for further information.

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## THE COMPANIONS

**...many of whom are of mature years, suggest that this little ditty might help dispel any gloom.**

It mentions 'Idris' - any excuse for a photo.

There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll  
The pill and miniskirts  
We smoked, we drank, we partied  
And were quite outrageous flirts.

Now Netflix is just wonderful  
I like a gutsy thriller  
I'm swooning over Idris  
Or some random sexy killer.

I'm normally a social girl  
I love to meet my mates  
But lately with the virus here  
We can't go out the gates.

Then we settled down, got married  
And turned into someone's mum,  
Somebody's wife, then nana,  
Who on earth did we become?

At least I've got a stash of booze  
For when I'm being idle  
There's wine and whiskey, even gin  
If I'm feeling suicidal!

You see, we are the 'oldies' now  
We need to stay inside  
If they haven't seen us for a while  
They'll think we've upped and died.

We didn't mind the change of pace  
Because our lives were full  
But to bury us before we're dead  
Is like a red rag to a bull!

So let's all drink to lockdown  
To recovery and health  
And hope this bloody virus  
Doesn't decimate our wealth.

They'll never know the things we did  
Before we got this old  
There wasn't any Facebook  
So not everything was told.

So here you find me stuck inside  
For 4 weeks, maybe more  
I finally found myself again  
Then I had to close the door!

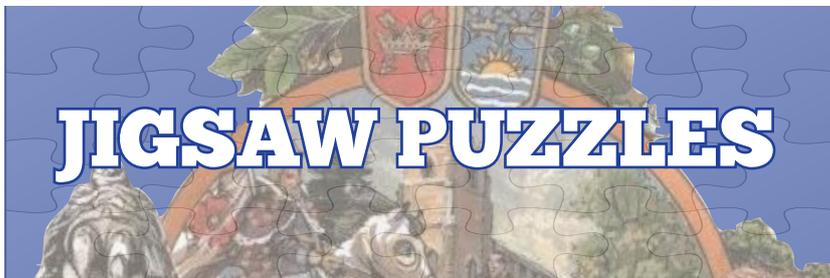
We'll all get through the crisis  
And be back to join our mates  
Just hoping I'm not far too wide  
To fit through the flaming gates!

We may seem sweet old ladies  
Who would never be uncouth  
But we grew up in the 60s -  
If you only knew the truth!

It didn't really bother me  
I'd while away the hour  
I'd bake for all the family  
But I've got no bloody flour!

### Editors' note:

Mr Idris Elba, actor, is not, currently, a member of the Elmswell Companions and will probably not, therefore, be at their eventual next meeting.



## JIGSAW PUZZLES

I've had quite a few good quality 1,000-piece jigsaws given to me which am happy to pass on to any other villagers, to stave off boredom and/or going doolally in these challenging times! I don't want anything for them, and would be fine to deliver them within the village.

**Stella - 01359-242601**

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Est. 2003



# STREET FARM DAY NURSERY

At this current time, health and businesses around the world are suffering at the hands of the Coronavirus. At Street Farm Day Nursery, whilst we are also suffering through issues relating to the Coronavirus, we are taking the time to carry out a thorough analysis of the business using the time to find ways where we could possibly improve upon our delivery of the outstanding childcare already in place.



The support we have received from our families has been

amazing and has kept our spirits high, we continue to follow our strong partnerships with parents via our Facebook and Instagram page, providing parents with activities and ideas to complete at home.

At Street Farm the team are passionate within their roles and whilst finding it extremely hard being away from their key children they are maintaining a positive attitude and looking forward to returning as soon as possible.



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## NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

**We're not working...**

While all of our activities are currently suspended, there's still plenty going on at Lukeswood and Kiln Meadow. Lots of the trees are now in full blossom and making a very pretty picture, especially against the clear blue skies that we've been enjoying lately. Apples and pears in the orchard are looking very impressive, while other trees in the woodland, such as blackthorn, hawthorn and bird cherry (pictured) are competing to put on a good display. Now is also the best time to hear bird song, especially if you are brave enough to get up at four in the morning to listen to the dawn chorus! You will be rewarded with a fantastic symphony of bird calls as they join in to proclaim their territories. Summer migrants are returning now, so watch out for house martins and swallows, and later on keep an ear out for screaming swifts. Kiln Meadow is a good place to spot these summer visitors as the birds flock to the sewage works – a great place to Hoover up lots of tasty insects. We're enjoying a great year for wildflowers, too, although we could do with some rain, after weeks of sun and wind. Mowing has been suspended in many of the village's green spaces and verges, so it will be interesting to see which wildflowers begin to appear here – great for bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects!

**Even while we're in lockdown, there's still plenty we can do to enjoy nature. Here are a few ideas from us.**

**From your armchair**

You can go bird spotting without even leaving the house! Put up a bird feeder or two and watch from a window to see who comes visiting. Or if you fancy something a bit more exotic, try some of the webcams beaming live pictures of nesting birds direct to our living rooms. Ospreys Louis and Aila have returned to their nest at Loch Arkaig Pine Forest and you can watch their every move as they collect nesting material, lay eggs and hopefully raise their chicks at <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/osprey-cam/>. Closer to home (but even higher up!) are the peregrine falcons nesting on a ledge at Norwich Cathedral. Watch them come and go at <https://hawkandowltrust.org/web-cam-live/norwich-cathedral-side>.

**For kids**

Have a go at making Natural Art, using things you can find in your garden or on a walk, such as fallen leaves, petals, sticks, stones and tree bark. Create a sculpture, or a picture, or make a tiny home for a woodland creature – like the amazing little pixie house we discovered at Lukeswood. I wonder who will move in? You could go on a Scavenger Hunt – how many tiny natural objects can you find? You might pick up an interesting leaf, a pine cone, a nibbled hazelnut, a feather, a snail shell or a piece of bark. Take along a small box (an empty matchbox is good) or a paper bag and see how many you can fit in. Or you could make a Blossom Card: find a small twig, glue it on to some card and use blobs of pink paint to make the petals. It would make a great birthday card, or perhaps you could give it to someone who is stuck indoors to cheer them up.

**In your garden**

Take part in Plantlife's Every Flower Counts project and find out how many bees and other pollinating insects your lawn can support. When it comes to providing vital nectar and pollen for bees, butterflies and other pollinators, every flower counts, including those growing in the lawns in our gardens. This is a great project to do as a family and provides lots of learning opportunities for children – they can really be citizen scientists! The project runs from 23-31 May, so now is the time to get started. First of all, choose a small area of your lawn and STOP MOWING! That will allow any tiny or dormant flowers to grow. Then you select a random quadrat and count all the flowers you can find contained within it. Submit your results to Plantlife and – this is the cool bit – they will tell you how much nectar your lawn is providing for our pollinating insects! Full details can be found at <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/everyflowercounts/>

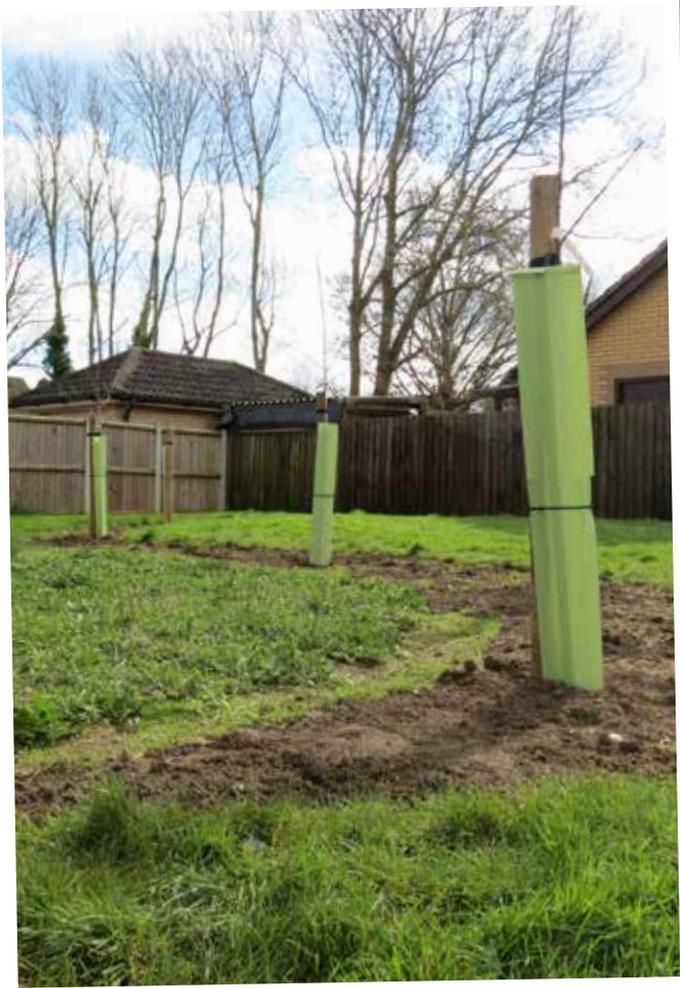
Whatever activities you decide to do, please stay safe and remember to follow the government's rules on travel and distancing.

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

## ELMSWILD FLOWERS

A lot of things have been cancelled, last month and going forward, but spring is definitely still going ahead, and it's been a beautiful one so far.

I hope you enjoy these fantastic photos of the Elmswell maze, as seen from above, taken by Mike Friend with his drone. Now that the whole thing is uncovered, children and adults alike have been enjoying wandering or racing along the brick path, wending their way round each compass point, into the centre of the maze and back out again. In the photos, you can also see the five new fruit trees which seem to be settling in well.



Meanwhile at the library, the five fruit trees are budding nicely and the wildflowers sown under them are beginning to germinate. A bit of rain wouldn't hurt, though, really!

During these strange times, we've noticed a lot of people spending more time in their gardens than usual, and perhaps now is the perfect time to consider how you could make your little patch of land more welcoming for native wildlife.

- Could you leave a section of your lawn un-weeded and un-mown, so that it naturally reverts to a meadow?
- Do you have the stamina to dig a little wildlife pond to attract dragonflies and frogs?
- Could you take a saw to your fences, to create hedgehog passages, to help one of our most endangered mammals?
- Is now the time to acquire some wildflower seeds and create a border of native blooms to help the bees and butterflies?

It's trickier, with the garden centres closed (although some are offering home deliveries on some items; worth checking), but our community is already coming together, swapping seeds and seedlings, which is marvellous.

We've got a whole bunch of wildflower seeds sorted into envelopes, as well as some sunflower seeds, which are available to you all for free. On your daily exercise, take a wander up to Whatley Close, off Cooks Road, and you'll find them there, next to a front garden wildflower meadow. Please, if you can, bring a little bag or envelope so you can scoop up some sunflower seeds. I didn't have enough envelopes to package them all up!

**Further details, photos and updates are listed on our Facebook Group and website, so look keep up to date with our progress! We'd love you to share images of the wildlife-friendly changes you've made too!**

[www.elmswildflowers.wordpress.com](http://www.elmswildflowers.wordpress.com)

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**ELMSWELL  
FOX BOWLS CLUB**

So, how are you all coping with this Lockdown business? Clearly, it has to be done but how far are we supposed to take it? I've had people leaping out of my path in terror, which is really strange because NOBODY is afraid of me! Strange times indeed. To a bowler, the distance of 2m is of great significance as it is the distance you set the mat from the edge of the green and the maximum distance from the cot at which you can register a score, so any bowler will know what 2m looks like. We even have 2m long rods to measure these distances. If someone passes you that precisely and if they are walking with a slight bias, you will have been passed by a bowler, no question.

Lockdown has had a devastating effect on all activities and bowls is no exception. We had a string of friendlies lined up and would be setting out on the new season about now. With the league being cancelled, we were obliged to offer our members their annual subscriptions back but did hold out the possibility of some late-season friendlies if all goes well. To date, not one has requested their money back, demonstrating what a great team spirit we have and what an optimistic bunch are members are. Obviously, nobody can guarantee anything just now but it seems likely that restrictions will have to be eased eventually so I think optimism is well-founded. Also, it is a lot more enjoyable than the alternative, you couldn't really hold a Domesday Party and get much of an atmosphere going, could you now?

The match fees could prove vital, though, as we are continuing to maintain the green and will have to keep it reasonably well watered, which will be expensive, especially with no match fees coming in. With the teams we ran last year, we were taking in £60 every week plus some roll-up fees so some late-season friendlies would be very welcome financially, too.

I have had to dredge the archives to find some 'new' old photos for you. I have gone a couple from Elmfest 2018 and chosen a shot of our Bowls Game in operation and one of group of our members, in civvies, enjoying a drink together whilst watching people trying their hand.

A lovely day and a great village event. Something to look forward to.

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# Across the Clerk's Desk

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, usually at 7.30 in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne. However, events are such that the Government has legislated for a relaxation of the usual statutory framework within which town & parish councils operate as far as meetings are concerned. Events are also slowing down the business of Council as other agencies find their own ways around the difficulties of physical isolation and lock-down.

## Meetings

Given the lack of activity elsewhere, there was insufficient business to justify a meeting as scheduled for 20th April. However, under the new legislation, an on-line meeting is programmed to be held using the Zoom video conferencing platform on Monday 18th May. This will be the Council's Annual Meeting, similar in tone to an AGM when accounts, policies and progress are reviewed, received or noted alongside the ordinary procedural business. Councillors will be remotely 'present' to follow an agenda in the customary format which will be posted in the usual way and on the Council's website at [elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://elmswell.suffolk.cloud). Following the new statutory framework, and in light of emerging advice from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) together with observing best practice elsewhere, public involvement will be, as usual, encouraged. The notices of the meeting, both on line and elsewhere, will invite questions on the published agenda as well as general questions relating to Council matters. The possibility of on-line public involvement is being actively pursued and will, if it is practicable, be advertised. The situation is very fluid and developing daily as Government / NALC guidance and various technical factors change. The Council will always continue to seek maximum transparency and public involvement as circumstances change.

## Projects

The Council continues to pursue the 4 major schemes currently in due process but with limited success as progress depends on so many other agencies, all of them working under difficulty and within unusual constraints. The state of play is, at the time of writing:  
**WESLEY** Clearly, the works have come to an abrupt halt with only

some 6 weeks to completion. Discussions continue towards determining the final finish regarding the external surfacing as a cost-effective way of avoiding the use of gravel is sought. Other detail, especially the kitchen fittings and stainless steel fascia to the front elevation, are also on the agenda as soon as the site can safely re-open.

## RAILWAY TAVERN SITE

The establishment of the Elmswell Community Land Trust to take forward the possibility of community-controlled affordable homes and of a Community Interest Company to develop ideas for refurbishment of the pub are currently frozen at various stages in their formation. The next significant stage in both cases will be wide public consultation. Without community support, neither can progress but it remains the case that, having secured the site (just in time, given recent developments) for the community, both prospects are seen as being promising and potentially very rewarding.

## EXTENSION AT BLACKBOURNE

The architect has recommended a preferred contractor, following a formal tendering process, for the scheme to provide more storage, more office space and a Village Archive room by way of extending the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne. Money is available by way of s106 funding and discussions continue towards a final contract price.

## MORE LAND AT BLACKBOURNE

The long-standing commitment to gift extra land at Blackbourne from the original proposals for housing development adjacent to White House Farm on Ashfield Road is now coming to fruition. Solicitors are instructed in the transfer to the

community of some 6 acres along the northern and eastern boundaries of Blackbourne Meadow.



*Essential maintenance – Cllr Dick Buch on the Council's tractor at Blackbourne.*

## Calmly carrying on

The office at Blackbourne is staffed every weekday morning to deal with essential matters requiring access to files and facilities there. Working from home, staff have cloud computer access and the telephone is picked up by VOIP or by answerphone. Day to day administration continues as efficiently as other agencies allow. The fact that Blackbourne is registered as an Emergency Rest Centre means that it must be available at short notice for use by Government agencies in the public interest, so systems maintenance and readiness are a significant consideration. The opportunity to tackle cyclical upkeep works in an otherwise empty facility has been taken and tasks which would have been slotted in & around bookings and other activities have been tackled, with all due regard to distancing, in one programme of painting, restoration and minor works. The need to keep the Queen's Highway open and accessible has been taken as an imperative, and footpath markers have been replaced, as necessary, on behalf of Suffolk County Council



Keeping open the Queen's Highway – new footpath sign at Wetherden Road.

who are keen to have local support and who keep Elmswell supplied with spare posts. Responding to the needs of local volunteers, grant funding has been obtained from Mid Suffolk and from the Suffolk Community Foundation for the emergency provision of some PPE on behalf of local carers using the Council's privileged access to such supplies through its regular janitorial supplies channels. This funding is also allowing volunteers to shop for essential supplies on behalf of households who are

isolated by acting as a 'bank' allowing short-term loans when payment is not immediately possible. As the point of liaison with the Mid Suffolk community support efforts, several referrals have been made via the office to Elmswell's community volunteers and, in a separate initiative, 2 households have received emergency food parcels.

Peter Dow CiLCA  
Clerk to the Council

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  
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**elmswell.suffolk.cloud ...**

...gives access to Parish Council agendas, Minutes and documents relating to the Council's finance and governance.



**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.

*Online*

May 18th June 25th July 20th Sept 21st Oct 19th

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

**The Annual Meeting of Elmswell Parish Council will be on**

**Monday 18th May**

beginning on-line at 7.30pm

*Details regarding public access will be published as further guidance and technical details emerge.*

**These details will be published on the Council's website at**

**elmswell.suffolk.cloud**

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# What's On in Elmswell ?



**Clearly, with a lockdown across the board, these events will be cancelled until further notice - but we leave them listed so that, whenever we get the OK to start up again, we're ready to go! (And as a reminder that we will be back to normal, hopefully in the not too distant future.)**

## May 2020

- 1 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 6 Elmswell Exchange WI - AGM and Resolutions Meeting Comp: A landscape photograph
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Annual General Meeting
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7.30pm. Speaker Jacquie Norman: "Tudor Costume in the time of Henry VIII" \*July tickets on sale\*
- 14 Over 55's Club Outing
- 15 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 17 7:00pm - Songs of Praise – Cambodia theme – at St John's Church Elmswell
- 19 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Outing
- 19 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm Speaker: Chris Dale - 'Sweet Peas'
- 28 Over 55's Club
- 29 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 29 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon

## June 2020

- 3 Elmswell Exchange WI - Edith Cavell - A British Heroine - Richard Mann Comp: Any memorabilia from World War 1
- 6 7:00pm - Quiz Night at St John's Church Elmswell
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Judith Muncila, A look at the lighter side of life
- 11 Elmswell History Group meeting, Chamberlayne Hall, The Blackbourne - 7pm A.G.M., the Speaker Anthony Cobbold: "The Cobbold Family" \*July tickets on sale\*
- 11 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 12 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm Speaker: Dr Ian Bedford - 'The trouble without wasps'
- 16 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Talk Our Special Friends + Raffle
- 25 Over 55's Club Music with "Times Past" open evening

- 26 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 26 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 28 12:30pm – St John's Church BBQ at the Rectory

## July 2020

- 1 Elmswell Exchange WI - The Work of a Parish Nurse - Lesley Williams Comp: A single flower in a container of your choice
- 9 Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper
- 9 Elmswell History Group – 6.45pm. Annual Outing - Bury Cathedral Details and Tickets from 01359-242601
- 10 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Summer outing
- 21 Elmswell Exchange Social Club A.G.M. + Strawberry Tea
- 21 Elmswell Gardening Club Summer Outing to Helmingham Hall. Coach will leave the Blackbourne car park at 1.00pm
- 23 Over 55's Club Bury Male Voice Choir in Jubilee Hall Visitors welcome
- 24 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 31 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30

## August 2020

- 2 2:30pm - St John's Summer walk (meet at Rectory)
- 5 Elmswell Exchange WI - Members Meeting - Create a Bookmark with Jayne Comp: The best three on the day
- 6 Over 55's Club Outing
- 7 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Social evening
- 18 Elmswell Exchange Social Club Corncraft
- 21 "Companions" meet at The Wesley Hall 10.15am – 12 noon
- 28 BINGO at Blackbourne Doors open 6.45...Eyes Down 7.30
- 31 Over 55's Club Holiday

## 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
- 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
- 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

## Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: May 26th, June 23rd, July 28th, August 25th, September 22nd

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

Our new email address is **EAA@elmswell.org.uk** Your editors: Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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

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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
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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	jaye130@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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