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dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

APRIL 2021

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud



Your Community Needs

YOU

... see page 9

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
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EAA@elmswell.org.uk



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.

Once every 4 years, give or take a pandemic delay or so, we are asked to help choose who is going to govern our lives at the various levels in which we are increasingly (blame that pandemic again!) governed.

It's currently 5 years in office for those Very Important People at the top of the governing ladder – our MPs, and it's been 5 years at our local level this time round because, you guessed it, Corona-shaped circumstances have intervened.

There are other fixed aspects of the governance cycle. There is, for example, the regular plea from all sides that we should cast our vote. Our future is in our own hands, we are told. The ballot box offers us a chance to have our say, to choose those individuals from amongst our own number that might best get the bins emptied on time, contain the excesses of the landowners and developers through the Planning system and fix the potholes.

With the help of reference to our newly emerging Village Archive, we can see some of the promises from past electioneering... 'I understand the needs of villages'... 'I want us to pay proper attention to the environment'... 'we work hard all the year round, you only hear from other parties at election time'... There is no reason to believe that this election's promises will be different, but helping make a choice could mean that some of those promises might be fulfilled.

Why are we so shy about putting a simple cross in a box? Last time we had the chance, in 2017, just 36.7% of us – 3,097 souls from the combined populations of Elmswell, Woolpit, Norton, Tostock, Finningham, Stowlangtoft and their nearby smaller communities – bothered to state a preference.

Two main answers are usually suggested when the 'WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER?' question is put –

1 The atrocious examples we take from the behaviour at the top suggests that the whole system is, if not bent, seriously wonky, witness:

X 85 hereditary peers receiving £162 per day for clicking on to a Zoom session, if only for a few minutes, of the House of Lords - £484,000 worth of taxpayers' money in the last 6 months for which figures are available;

X A previous Prime minister engineering privileged access to Whitehall for his friend, a scandal-hit banker, worth hundreds of thousands of pounds;

X Britain's public spending watchdog's criticism of the government for a series of failures having awarded more than £17bn of contracts to private companies to tackle the coronavirus crisis, including a lack of transparency, errors and potential conflicts of interest.

2 The apparent difficulty in having any effect, through our elected councillors, on things that matter to us, at our own ever-so-humble level, for example:

X The continuing charade of the pothole merry go round with, apparently, no acknowledgement that the lack of joined-up thinking creates an ever-worsening hazard;

X The failure to at least come and talk to our communities about the apparently perverse decisions made regarding infrastructure when considering Planning applications...leading to the prospect, for example, of our children being bussed or taken by car over the A14 to a new school at Woolpit every day rather than educated here in our own village with its ever-increasing population;

X The refusal to control the contractors and statutory undertakers who regularly render our busy roads more dangerous as they seal off their work areas or install traffic lights to protect the various infrequent gangs of workers who tackle little bits of the job and go away leaving cones and chaos around an empty site.

Just a few of the many reasons to throw up our hands and declare that, whatever we say, whoever we elect, we can expect little change regarding the things that matter to us.

The further down the election food chain that we look, however, it is clear that our District and County Councillors do live lives that we can relate to and often do listen...but the dead weight of the party-political framework works against local action and swift, effective results. Witness, below these rarefied levels, the day-to-day efforts of town and parish councils – beavering away, thanklessly in most cases, on the lowest rung of the political ladder and, usually, not 'political' at all.

Our own experience bears this out. Barring a brief bout of silliness at the turn of the century, Elmswell has dealt well with the pressures imposed by the remorseless drive for development. Community provision is exemplary for a village of our size and, aware of the many hundreds of new households joining us in the next very few years, Elmswell councillors and others have led the creative innovations at Blackbourne and, more recently, at Wesley. Success here has provided the impetus to move dramatically further with the purchase of the Greene King site at School Road where the prospects of a community pub linked to Wesley and of a local affordable housing scheme seem to strengthen by the day.

Our parish councillors benefits from liaison with and support from their District and County colleagues. It may, therefore, be worth casting an eye over the leaflets through the door over the next few weeks and considering giving support to one of the candidates to serve on Suffolk County Council on our behalf for the next, pandemic permitting, 4 years. Postal voting is easy and helps remove any doubts regarding social distancing.

Of course, there is also the opportunity to vote for Suffolk's Police & Crime Commissioner, something for which few can, apparently, see much point to at all. Unfortunately, space here does not permit any counter to that view.





ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Lockdown has been in place on and off now for over a year during which time we have all had to adjust to isolation, separation and cancellation of all our usual meetings and events. During this period the Wesley has been completed and become available for community use but has seen minimal use. Hopes for a early end to the lockdown have been raised occasionally and just as quickly dashed! The Art Club has not met for more than a year and we have all been left to our own devices to do whatever art work we feel inclined to do. Strangely, so many members have lost the inclination to paint at home without the companionship of others around them. So we are all keen to get back together again and no doubt do plenty of talking and comparing notes before we put brush to paper.

One person who has maintained a regular output of work is Caroline Cooke who is, like Anna Hawes who we featured in November, one who experiments with styles, formats and materials. Born and brought up in Beverley, North Yorkshire, "God's own Country" most definitely, but Suffolk has been her home for 48 years. Caroline has always been interested in painting and

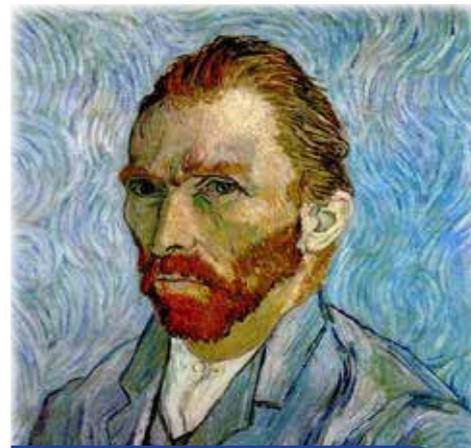
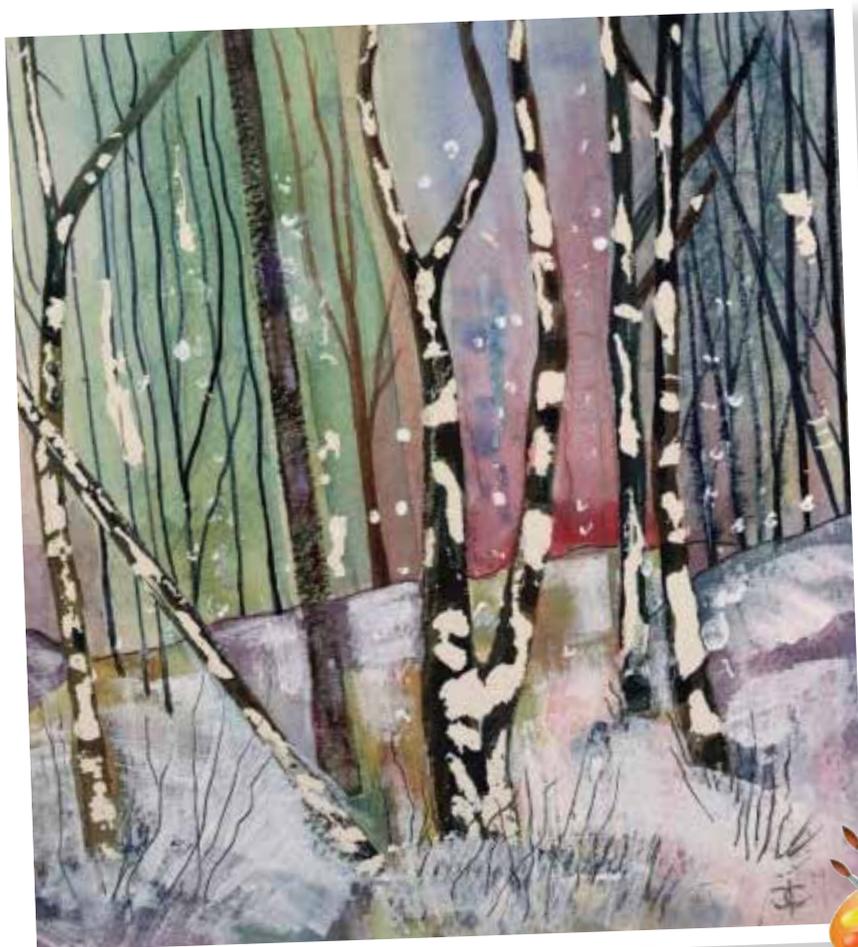


took a course in her late teens. She pursued a career in paediatric nursing in Edinburgh and midwifery in London before coming to Suffolk. She enjoyed doing detailed analytical drawings during her training which she recently found tucked away in a drawer together with accompanying notes. These will be passed on to a granddaughter who is hoping to study Paramedic Science at university. The moral of this tale is never throw anything like this away, you never know how useful it might be!

Family life took over interspersed with running a first aid group at a local school and working at West Suffolk

Hospital and St Nicholas Hospice. Caroline trained as a bereavement counsellor and worked in that role for several years. We have a number of members with a medical background. Nowadays, Caroline's leisure time is taken up with drawing and painting and she has exhibited at various local exhibitions. Her work is now less constrained and more abstract in nature. She mainly uses watercolour but will often use other mediums. Among artists who have inspired her are Colin Kent, Maggie Hambling, especially her seascapes and Jane Berridge who gives great tips on colour and texture. Once travel restrictions are lifted, and we are all looking forward to that, she will have some personal tuition with Hashim Akim, a birthday gift from her children. Our two featured paintings are from Caroline. The abstract is watercolour on gesso. The little bird is a happy accident which not everyone sees. Can you? The trees are also watercolour on gesso.

John Welford 01359 240166



What would life be like if we had no courage to attempt anything?

Vincent Van Gogh

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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON WI

News of our W.I. exploits are very sparse, I am afraid. We do now know that we won't be **"attempting to look good in a bin bag"** when we re-convene in July. Yes, I am afraid April was wishful thinking on my part. I just wanted to be positive and live in hope. The government's gradual relaxing of restrictions puts us in July, so Wednesday the 7th is being planned. Stephanie has agreed to step in with her **"Making the best of a Supermarket Bunch"** and we are grateful to her. Although we are losing a few members it appears that we are also gaining some new ones so everything is positive. Store your black bin bags away safely and Mandy Wild will be with us next year for what looks like being an hilarious afternoon.

The W.I. Constitution has been changed to accommodate the inevitable alterations to way the organisation has had to function over the last year. All our members were given a vote on this and the result was pretty much 100% in favour of all the changes. Was there a choice really ??? We could not have functioned legally without these changes. This means that instead of our AGM being in May as it always had to be we can now move the date to suit circumstances. Therefore, our AGM this year will be in September. Wednesday the 1st to be precise.

I've struggled to find a suitable photograph this month. As it is now officially spring, I thought this lovely hellebore would be appropriate. It was a gift from Doreen Tomlinson's garden. As you all know she has now moved to Chilton Court. She has settled well which I am sure is a relief to her family. Like me, she loved her garden and it will be a memento of a much loved W.I. member and neighbour. Hopefully the restrictions at Care Homes will change soon and we can visit her.

*Keep safe and keep smiling.
Maureen Davis*



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

"COMPANIONS"

All at "Companions" would like to wish everyone in the village a very Happy Easter and we look forward to seeing you when Boris says we can meet.

Best wishes From Linda Waspe on 01359 242224

ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

It doesn't seem 4 weeks since the last time I put the newsletter report together.

I have now been advised that from April 1st I am no longer in the vulnerable category so I don't need to isolate but distancing must still apply, even if you have received both jabs. I personally think that we could be wearing face coverings for some time to come possibly long after June 21st,

Having spoken to the committee they feel that it may be possible to resume

meeting in August or September when it is hoped that we could expect a fair turnout specially if we can book some entertainers.

The only positive date booked is Saturday December 18th for the Xmas Party when Amy will be back doing the catering and Brotherhood will entertain us.

At this moment in time (March 22nd) we have only got 14 names for the Tenby holiday on July 12th so we have till mid April to muster up about the same

number to justify the cost of the coach hire for a week please think about it asap.

I hope you enjoyed the photos last month if anybody can name the people at the far end of the centre table please let me know.

We have sent in some more pictures showing events from the 1950s up until present times.

In the meantime please stay safe and check that your neighbour is ok.

Diann 241002

ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

EASTER TRADITIONS

Until we can safely meet again indoors for our monthly talks (probably not until September), we've researched some interesting and surprising U.K. customs around Easter.



Morris Dancing

Regarded as an ancient tradition even in the reign of Elizabeth I, these 'madde men' with their 'Devils dance' were banned by the Puritans following the Civil War. Do visit the Morris Dancing Festival in Thaxted (Essex) on Easter Monday, if we're permitted to travel by then.



Royal Maundy Distribution

(the day before Good Friday) - Already an established custom at the time of Elizabeth I, this custom derives from the Last Supper at which Christ washed the feet of his disciples. It is recorded that Edward II washed the feet of the poor as an act of humility. In the modern ceremony the Sovereign distributes specially minted silver coins to the recipients, the number of which corresponds with their age.

Bottle Kicking and Hare Pie Scramble in Hallaton (Leics) on Easter Monday

The proceedings start with the parading of a giant hare pie, which is blessed by the vicar, and great greasy handfuls of which are thrown into the hungry scrambling crowd. After that, things get even sillier ... The Bottle Kicking contest between Hallaton and nearby Medbourne can



commence which, confusingly, involves neither bottles nor kicking! Instead, the two village teams face each other at Hare Pie Bank and fight over three small beer barrels, which have been decked in ribbons. The casks are released in turn, and the opposing teams attempt to roll or carry them to their village boundary. The scrum is rules-free and notoriously bloodthirsty. The whole event can last for hours, with both teams sharing the beer contained within the final cask - sounds like Bury Rugby matches! Bottle Kicking is recorded as early as 1770, but its origin is thought to be much older; it is believed to be linked to the sacrifice of the hare in the Dark Age worship of the goddess Eastre. In 1790, the rector tried to ban the event because of its pagan origins — the next day graffiti appeared on the vicarage wall: "No pie, no parson." Unable to beat them, the church joined them!

Hocktide Festival "Tutti Day", on second Tuesday after Easter

Though once widespread throughout Britain, Hungerford (Berks) is now the only place in the country still to maintain the annual Hocktide Festival. The festival dates from the 14th century when Prince John of Gaunt gave the rights of free grazing and fishing to local 'commoners'. The town-crier blows his horn and calls together the Hocktide Court in the town hall. Here, all commoners living in the High Street must pay a fine to ensure their rights of fishing and grazing. While the court continues, "Tutti-Men" or Tithe Men (originally rent collectors), with florally decorated poles, are led through the streets by the "Orange-Man" to collect a coin from the men and kisses from all the ladies resident in the High Street, while they receive an orange in return. Various traditional suppers, lunches and balls follow.



Beating The Bounds, on Ascension Day

Before the Roman invasion, **rituals connected with spring were performed each year as part of the pagan festival of Beltane.** Birch twigs or besoms (brooms) were struck against the boundary marks as part of the ritual. Beating the Bounds also played an important part in Anglo-Saxon **times to formalise rights** over property and people. In medieval times the ceremonial processing around the land also served to reinforce the power and influence the Lords and Barons had over tenants and serfs. Christianity arrived in Britain **in the 4th or 5th century AD**, and incorporated a number of pagan, Roman and Anglo-Saxon festivals and customs. Beating the Bounds was not originally part of a religious celebration but it was gradually integrated as church jurisdiction succeeded that of the manorial estates. It should also be remembered that in many cases early Christian churches were built on sites considered sacred by ancient Britons.





Pace-Egging

Is an ancient Lancashire custom once widespread, and is still to be found in parts of the county today. Pace-Eggs are those specially decorated for an Easter-time festival, and are part of a centuries-old tradition. The eggs are first wrapped in onion skins and boiled, giving the shells a golden, mottled effect; then they are decorated. Pace-egging was taken seriously - for example, in the household accounts of King Edward I there is an item of "one shilling and sixpence for the decoration and distribution of 450 Pace-eggs". In the Wordsworth Museum at Grasmere (Cumbria), there can be seen a collection of highly decorated eggs

originally made for the poet's children. Usually Pace-eggs were either eaten on Easter Sunday or handed out to the Pace-Eggers who were once a common sight in Lancashire villages. They were groups of fantastically dressed 'mummers' complete with blackened faces, wearing animal skins and festooned with ribbons and streamers. They processed through the streets singing the traditional Pace-egger's song and collecting money as a tribute. The procession included various characters... the Noble Youth, the Lady Gay, the Soldier Brave and the Old Toss-Pot who was a drunken buffoon wearing a long straw tail stuffed with pins - it was not wise to grab the Old Toss-Pot's tail.

In Preston the crowds still gather today to watch the old traditional egg-rolling contest down the grassy slopes of their local park, and hundreds of children compete to see whose egg can roll the furthest without cracking. Beware..... empty Pace-egg shells must be crushed, for they are popular with Lancashire witches who use them as boats - you have been warned!!

On a personal note, when our daughter was 4, Nick went out to buy her an Easter egg, and came back with a beautiful red **bike(!)** which, luckily, she really loved. I expect she had an egg as well, but I honestly can't remember!

And finally – if you haven't already managed to visit the **Henslow exhibition at Stowmarket's Museum of East Anglian Life**, we'd encourage you to do so while it remains on for the remainder of April, particularly as entry is **free of charge!** Professor Henslow was an inspirational teacher, skilled botanist and lifelong friend and mentor of Charles Darwin. To double-check MEAL's opening times, do contact them at 01449-612229, or www.eastanglianlife.org.uk

**Elmswell
History
Group**

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

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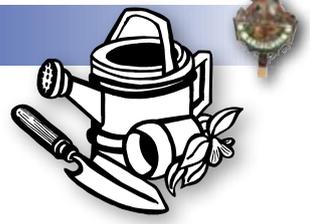
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ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB



April has finally arrived and the gardens of Elmswell are looking delightful. There are flowers in bloom and blossom appearing on trees. It really is a wonderful time of year.



For those of us starting various plants from seed, the time has come to remove the seed trays from windowsills to gradually acclimatise the seedlings to cooler conditions, and then finally plant them where we hope they will thrive.

I always think gardeners are an optimistic bunch of people. There is always something to look forward to in the garden, whatever the time of year. There will be set-backs, of course, and yet we continue to sow, water, and weed, without feeling any sense of tedium, in the expectation that our efforts will be rewarded manifold.

Mary had such expectations when she prepared her Amaryllis pots in the autumn. They were destined, along with other pots, as Christmas gifts, but due to restrictions of travel the pots were not passed on. The display in her garden room is stunning and has given much pleasure.



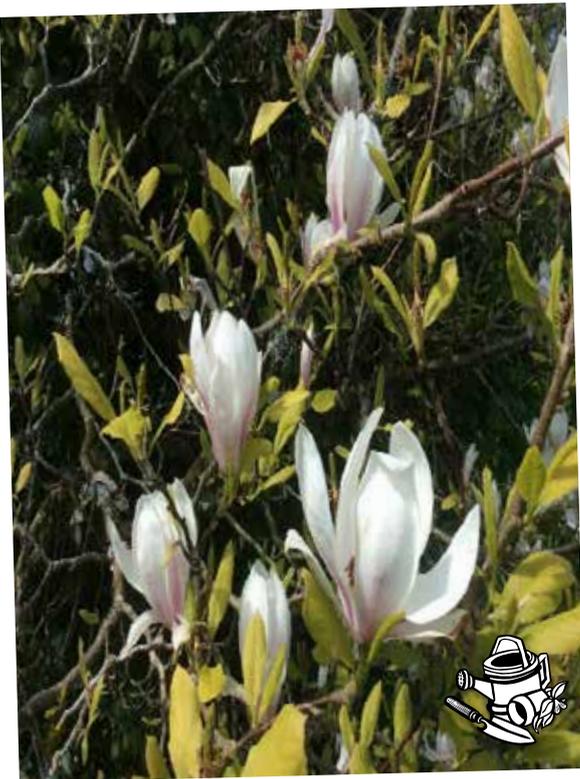
Despite the great sadness and difficulties surrounding the arrival of Corona virus, a resurgence of interest in gardening and concern for the environment has emerged during recent times. Happily there are lots of ways to become involved in our area and perhaps you will be tempted to try out Elmswell Garden Club once it restarts. You will be very welcome.

Happy gardening!

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.**

Thank you to Hilary who put this article together for the Newsletter. Thanks, must also go to Margret for her photo of the daffodils in her garden and to Mary for sharing her potted Amaryllis.



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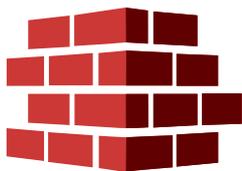
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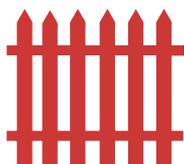
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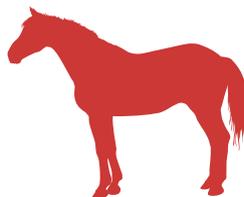
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Your Community Needs YOU

The Community Test Site at Blackbourne Community Centre has completed over 500 tests for COVID-19 in its first four weeks of operation.

All adults and children who do not have symptoms are encouraged to attend for a free test (lateral flow test) to help prevent the spread of the virus amongst family members and the community in general. The test can detect those who are asymptomatic or in the early stages of infection.



Your Community Needs
YOU

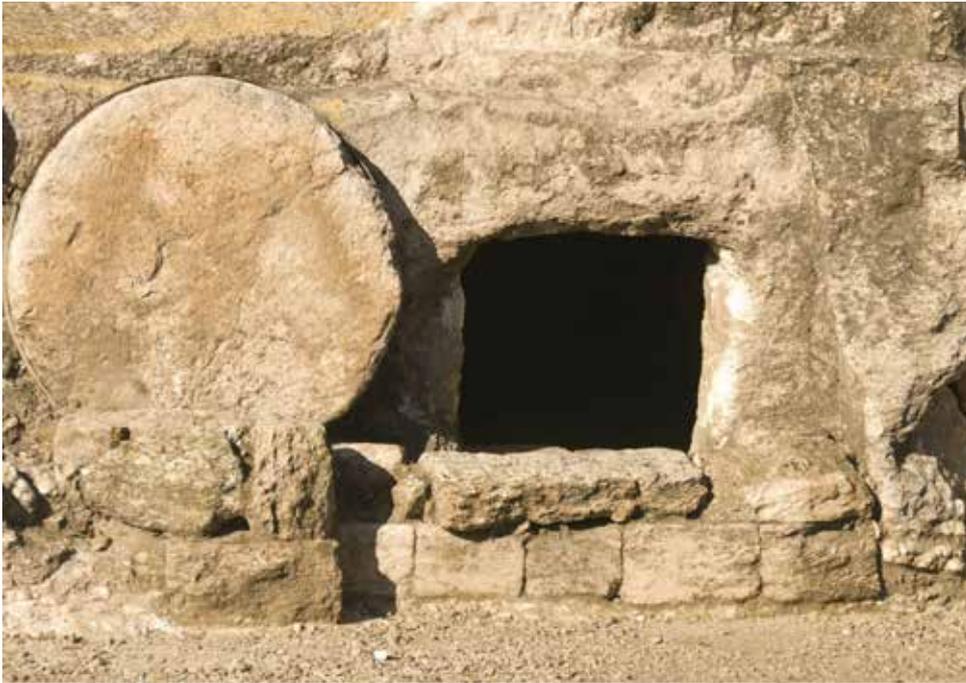
The test itself only takes a few minutes to complete and fully trained staff are available to assist.

The Test Site is open to the public five days a week:

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Wednesday	7am to 1.30pm
Thursday	11.30am to 7pm
Friday	7am to 1.30pm

To book an appointment visit www.Suffolk.gov.uk and search for Community Testing or if you are unable to book just turn up.

Community Testing is seen as essential tool in combatting the virus and assisting to get the country back on its feet again.



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

Greetings from St John's Church.

Easter is a message of hope

It was the weekend that changed the world. On the Friday, the man called Jesus of Nazareth was put to death as a criminal. It was a shocking miscarriage of justice – the guy was innocent. But he had made some astonishing claims. "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." It sounds like nonsense until we see how Jesus himself rose from the dead on Easter Sunday, proving all that he had said about himself was true. The message of Easter? It's about the new life Jesus gives to those who turn to him in faith. Both enhanced life and hope here and now. And then life after death in a place where all suffering and grief and sadness and Covid are no more :)

Easter is a time to celebrate

At St John's we are re-opening the church for Sunday Worship on Easter Sunday. Our main service will be a 45 minute Easter Celebration at 10:30am. You are very welcome - social distancing measures will be in place, but please bring a mask. There will also be an earlier BCP Holy Communion service (without music) at 9:00am.

Our awesome Sunday School will continue to be held over Zoom at 9:30am.

But you don't have to wait until Easter Sunday to join us. On Good Friday, the Christians Together In Elmswell Service will be over Zoom at 10:00am (see details on our web site).

Get to know the Bible with a small group of friends

Each Wednesday we have three small groups that chat and look together at what the Bible says. One group meets in the morning and two in the evening (all by Zoom at the moment). If you would like to join a group, you would be made very welcome. Simply contact Peter (details below).

Diary for April:

Sunday 4 April:

- 9:00am BCP Holy Communion in church
- 9:30am Sunday School via Zoom. Contact us for details.
- 10:30am Easter Celebration in church & streamed online.

Sunday 11 April:

- 10:30am Holy Communion in church & streamed online.

Sunday 18 April:

- 9:00am BCP Holy Communion in church
- 9:30am Sunday School via Zoom. Contact us for details.
- 10:30am Sunday Worship in church & streamed online.

Sunday 25 April:

- 9:30am Sunday School via Zoom. Contact us for details.
- 10:30am Holy Communion in church & streamed online.

Every Tuesday and Thursday:

- 8:00pm Night Prayer streamed on Facebook

Every 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

Website: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell

YouTube: accessed via our website home page

Zoom: See weekly newsletter on our website or Facebook for details.



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A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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- 3 celebrating June & John Pursglove's Golden Wedding Anniversary.
- 4 to remember and thank all those Elmswell Fire-Fighters who have served their village and community so well.



- 9 remembering Grace Rush, a dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma, on her Birthday.
- 9 in loving memory of my dear Dad, Dennis Hopper. "Sadly missed". Sally & Alan. xx.
- 14 remembering Carl Finch on the anniversary of his death in 1999.
- 14 in memory of Ray Borrett's Birthday.
- 15 Happy Anniversary to my special wife. Mike.
- 17 in loving memory of Jane Goodchild. Love, Colin. xx.
- 20 in memory of Jim Baker (1933 - 2009) on his Birthday.
- 22 in loving memory of Teasel, dearly missed.
- 23 remembering Carl Finch on St. George's Day.
- 29 remembering Mum's Birthday. Mike.
- 30 in memory of David Lakey.
- 30 remembering my Mum & Dad's Birthdays, Ivy & Dennis Hopper. "Forever in our thoughts". Sally & Alan. xx.

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Tel:01449-612946 E-mail: pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk

MASS TIMES:

Saturday (First Mass of Sunday) – 6PM
St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30 9QG

Sundays – 8.30am & 10.15am

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket IP14 1AW

Holy Days – 10am & 7.30pm
Our Lady's Strickland Road Stowmarket

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the front of Our Lady's Church, in the weekly Newsletter and on the Parish Website – www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

By the time you read this Easter will have passed and for the second year running we were unable to be in the chapel for this, but also by the time you read this, restrictions should have been lifted a little, some will have had their second Covid jab and there is hope on the not too distant horizon. We were still able to celebrate God keeping his promise when Jesus died and then rose again, but only over Zoom! We had been hoping that things might have improved enough for us to be in the chapel, but it wasn't to be. Easter was when God launched a fresh start for every man, woman and child for the rest of time – forgiveness, hope and a real future. We can now look forward to remembering the time that the Holy Spirit came with great



power for the first time on the followers of Jesus and again we are hoping that we will be able to gather in St. Johns for a Christians Together in Elmswell service on Pentecost Sunday (May 23rd).

The Ladies Friendship Group and Food 'n' Friends will not resume meetings until September, on the 6th and 9th respectively.

Our hope is that we might be able to be back in the chapel for services in the middle of May around about the same time that theatres etc are expected to re-open. Watch this space!

If you would like to join in our Zoom services or indeed our Zoom gathering on Wednesday mornings, please email cockant2@btinternet.com for an invite. Speakers booked over the coming weeks are:-

April
11th Carol Richardson
18th Mark Partridge
25th Rev. Norman Tharby
May

2nd Rev. Norman Tharby
Visit our website at www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk, email cockant2@btinternet.com or telephone 01359 241541 for further info. You can also find us on Facebook.

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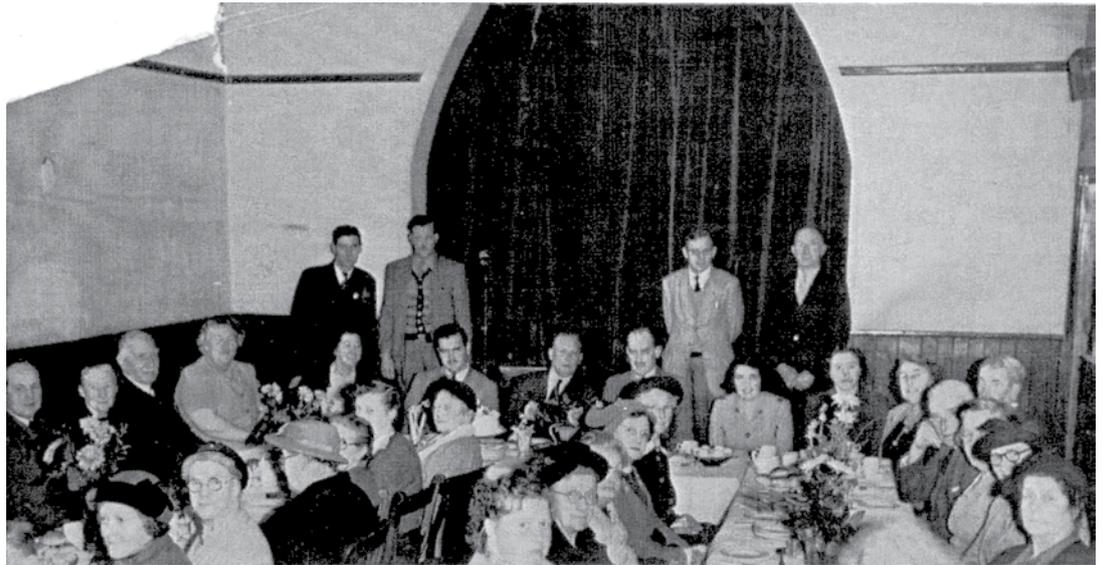
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ELMSWELL VILLAGE ARCHIVE

One of the many interesting photographs lodged with the archive this month shows a rare view of the interior of the Elmswell National School, one of several significant buildings constructed by the energetic Revd. Luke who had the Living of Elmswell from 1863 until 1878.



The foundation stone was laid in 1865, and the Archive records, from the Bury & Norwich Post on 30th May of that year: *On Thursday last the first stone of these schools was laid by the Rev. W.H.C. Luke, Rector of the Parish. A large number of the inhabitants of the village were present and after suitable prayers had been offered, Mr Luke deposited some coins and placed the stone in the position assigned for it. The schools which will be built of red brick, will contain a school-room 45 feet 6 inches by 17 feet: a class-room 16 feet by 12 feet: and various offices. The roof will be open, high-pitched and stained and varnished. The plans and specifications were furnished by Mr. A Andrews, architect and builder, of Bury, who has engaged to build same. Sir George Seymour, Bart., kindly gave the land for the site, and the total cost will be about £500, the larger portion of which will be raised by public subscription.*

From the Archive, we know that, in 1871, the Education Return lists, 'space for 96 children, present 44 boys and 22 girls.' The larger non-church funded Board School was built in 1891 with a capacity of 170 pupils and both schools are recorded as being in operation in 1916 – the Church of England Public Elementary School with 120 attending under Mrs Ainsley's eagle eye and 175 pupils in the Council Board School with Mr Henry Sterne as Headmaster. The Old Church of England school was subsequently used as the Church Hall – hence our picture. Both schools, as shown on the Archive map, were demolished in 1990 to be replaced by Old Schools Court – which explains the plural name.



Help is always needed as the material gathering in the Archive room is to be catalogued and recorded for retrieval as well as properly sorted and stored. If you can help or if you have anything relating to Elmswell's past that might best be recorded and stored (as a copy if you wish to keep the original) do be in touch through the Council office tel 244134 email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



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VACANCY

March 2021

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An exciting opportunity has arisen to join Little Elms in Elmswell as a member of our Bumble Bee (Larger) room, with the older children (3-5years).

You would be joining a dedicated team, who strive to provide excellent Early Years education and childcare.

The successful candidate will be required to work (these could be changed)

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Friday 8.30am – 3.30pm

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- Need to be familiar with Tapestry the online Learning Journal, or willing to learn
- Be able to work as part of a team



For further details email Melanie at info@littleelms.co.uk or visit our website www.littleelms.co.uk to download an application form or call into the office closing date for applications will be Monday 12th March 2021.



ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

It has been good to see many of you again now that reserves have started coming through again.

The public computer is now back and useable. If you want a guaranteed slot then let us know and we can book it. If not you can pop by and see if it is available. We wipe it down after every customer and there is plenty of ventilation as we keep the door open.

We also have wifi so if you want to book that space but use your own computer then that option is available too. The library tends to be a quite quiet space and we are happy to welcome anyone who needs to take advantage of this for 50 minutes or if there is no one waiting for the computer, 100 minutes.

Browsing should be back from Tuesday 13th April if all goes to plan. We know

many of you have missed this and as before it will be 1 household at a time allowed to browse in the library. We will still be offering Select and Collect as well as Quick Select too.

This month's display will be physical and digital and is inspired by Autism Acceptance Month. The display will include autistic authors including Chris Packham and Corinne Duyvis and will have a mix of fiction and non fiction.

If you were not able to see the Suffolk Libraries Day book festival authors live there are videos of the events on Suffolk libraries YouTube https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvxvZydrWWeUH-5VZSvGnt_xaa-v-fcYPO

If you are interested in more author events, this month Simon Breet and Michael Jecks are at this year's online Skulduggery Crimewriting Festival. Skulduggery takes place on 24th and 25th April. More information can be found at <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/whats-on/festival/skulduggery-in-stow-market-crimewriting-festival-2021>

Keep up to date with what services are available through <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/coronavirus>.

See you in the library soon,

Miles

What's on at Elmswell Library?

Baby Bounce

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

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.

Opening times

Browsing is currently suspended but you can still collect reserves and use the select and collect service.

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10.30am – 1pm and 2.30pm – 7pm

Wednesday: 2.30pm – 5pm

Thursday: 10.30am – 1pm and 2.30pm – 7pm

Friday: 2.30pm – 5pm

Saturday: 10.30am – 1pm

Sunday: 10.30am – 3pm



Announcing SKULDUGGERY in Stowmarket

April 24th & 25th 2021

Stowmarket Library's Skulduggery team are excited to present a free online event. Live interviews with two of the country's leading crime authors. To register & pre-book your place for free: log onto the Suffolk Libraries' website

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/skulduggery>

Join in on Saturday 24th as Michael Jecks - author of the Templar and Jack Blackjack series of historical mysteries, talks live online to our interviewer about the pull of historical plots and his writing life. On Sunday 25th join in as Simon Brett, OBE – author of the Charles Paris, Mrs Pargeter, and the Fethering and Blotto & Twinks crime series, talks live online to our Skulduggery interviewer about his writing, characters and the secrets of cosy crime.



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Secretary's March Report

I hope we find you all in good spirits? Things seem to be brightening up a bit in many aspects of life. We now have a 'roadmap' out of lockdown, cases are dropping, vaccinations are going well and we've even had some Spring like weather. From the 29th of March outdoor sports facilities will reopen and formally organised outdoor sport can restart; that means us! Training and friendlies should be able to begin in April but at this moment in time we don't know too much more for certain. The Suffolk and Ipswich League and Suffolk FA (who organise the County Cups) don't get prior warning of government decisions so we are not much the wiser as to what will happen with the rest of our season. There are a few possibilities ranging from calling everything null and void to extending the season into the Summer to complete all fixtures. The half way option would be to play all teams in the league just the once, instead of home and away, but we'll just have to wait and see what the powers that be decide.

Our First Team are sitting pretty in second place in Div.2 with several games in hand. We dearly hope they'll be given the chance to complete enough of their season to gain promotion again. Our Reserves sit in fifth place in their first season in Intermediate C. I'm sure the opportunity for another cup run would be relished by both teams too.

We'll update you with any fixture news next month and hopefully see you socially distance supporting up Blackbourne soon!

EFC Club Secretary, Ed



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Secretary's April Report

Quite a lot has happened in the last month since we originally heard about Boris' Road Map. The Suffolk and Ipswich League have confirmed that the league will be declared null and void as they felt there was not sufficient time remaining to conclude the season in a meaningful way. So, for the moment that leaves our First Team in 'Div 2' and our Reserves in 'Intermediate C'. Our hope is that, like last season, there might be some reshuffling to be done to accommodate new teams into the league and fill gaps for teams that have folded. I believe the last time the first team were in 'Div 1' was the 95/96 season so it would be truly sensational if we were to get back up to those heights again; fingers crossed! The County Cups (run by the F.A.) are to continue, with the finals hopefully being played at Portman Road, with supporters, before the start of next season. You will remember our first team reached the final of the Primary Cup last year which had to be played at Stowmarket instead of Portman Road due to Covid Regulations. Being in 'Div 2' now the First Team are now in the Junior Cup and the Reserves will compete in the Primary Cup.

The SIL, although having written off the league, are organising friendlies to allow the SIL teams and players to get some football in before the end of the season. No spectators will be allowed to start with but hopefully this will loosen up as Covid Regulations relax going forward. The League are selecting opposition from nearby to reduce teams having to travel very far as we come out of lockdown. This does however mean that games might be drawn against higher or lower opposition. The First Team's first game for example, is against 'Div 1' side Stow Falcons and the Reserves' are away to Bacton 'A'.

With a bit of luck we can tell you about some decent Elmswell performances next month and invite you to come and watch the next round of matches.

Keep safe.

EFC Club Secretary, Ed



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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



We're back – again..... ...and now we'd really like you to come and join us!

It's been a topsy-turvy time over the last year, with various lockdowns forcing a complete stop to activities at Lukeswood and Kiln Meadow. Nature isn't in stop-go mode, however, so we've been trying to keep things ticking over by carrying out essential tasks working individually. Judging by some of the lovely comments we've had, visitors have really appreciated our efforts to keep Lukeswood in particular open for much needed recreation and respite. But it isn't the same.

Now with restrictions easing we're planning to get back to normal working, so by the time you read this we'll have held our first work parties.



We've really missed our regular dose of nature! Working outdoors surrounded by the natural environment is a real tonic. Imagine planting a tree while listening to the chiffchaffs competing with the great tits for your attention (there seems to be a chiffchaff calling from every branch at the moment). Or you're bundling up newly cut willow, hear a mewing sound in the sky, and look up to see a couple of buzzards sky-dancing overhead. Or you're walking back to the container for a well earned cup of coffee (and cake – there's always cake!) with the scent of freshly mown grass and herbs in your nostrils. It's magic, and we don't want to keep it all to ourselves. We'd love to share it with you, especially now when we all need to boost our well-being.

What do we do?

ElmsWild volunteers divide our time between four different sites and projects (shortly to be joined by a fifth). First of all, there's Lukeswood, our own community woodland and orchard, which is owned and managed by ElmsWild, and which we've been working on for the last eleven years. Then there's Kiln Meadow which, if you don't know it, can be reached via the footpath from the end of Spong Lane.

The land here is owned by Anglian Water and we've been managing it as a nature reserve for an amazing 25 years. Next to the library is the Memorial Garden, a little floral oasis in the middle of bustling Elmswell, which we look after on behalf of the Elmswell Amenities Association who first established it when the new library was built. Our fourth project is Elmswild Flowers and Elmswell Scattered Orchard which we're running together with Jen Tooke-Marchant in small plots throughout the village. Readers are sure to have seen the colourful mini meadows around the village sign, and at the maze, the library and the station, along with the fruit trees planted in two of those sites. Our latest project is Town Field, at the end of Spong Lane, which we will be managing as a meadow under licence with the Poor's Land charity.





What's the work like?

It's very varied. Depending on the time of year, we can be tree planting, strimming, mowing, raking, coppicing, willow weaving, pruning, sowing seeds, putting up nest boxes – in fact everything related to the maintenance of all the different wildlife habitats across our many sites. We also carry out surveys to monitor and record the flora and fauna that populate our nature reserves. We've surveyed mammals, birds, wildflowers, spiders, butterflies and fungi, and we plan to do more – grasses, moths and other invertebrates.

Is it hard work?

Everyone works at their own pace and we work together to share the load. The emphasis is on having fun

and enjoying yourself. We have all the necessary tools, which we add to as required. Regular breaks are mandatory and stopping for coffee and cake is an essential part of every work session. For our biggest tasks of the year – mowing and raking Kiln Meadow, for example – we count on help from our friends at BT and Anglian Water. These volunteer days are fantastic fun and we always get a lot of work done, but covid restrictions mean that such days may be more difficult in future.

Do you need any special skills or knowledge?

Not at all! Just wear suitable clothing, especially gloves, and bring a flask/ drink with you.

When do we meet?

At the moment we're meeting every Tuesday morning, from 9.30 to 12.30, usually at Lukeswood but sometimes at one of our other sites. We're currently working in groups of six, as per government instructions, but we may include larger groups as restrictions are eased. Sometimes other work days are arranged for specific tasks, and some of these can be at the weekend.

Want to know more?

Why not give it a try! If you think you'd like to join us please get in touch by email or phone. Or if you're already raring to go, just come along one Tuesday morning (but perhaps give us a ring first just to check where we're going to be). We think you'll soon be hooked, just as we are!





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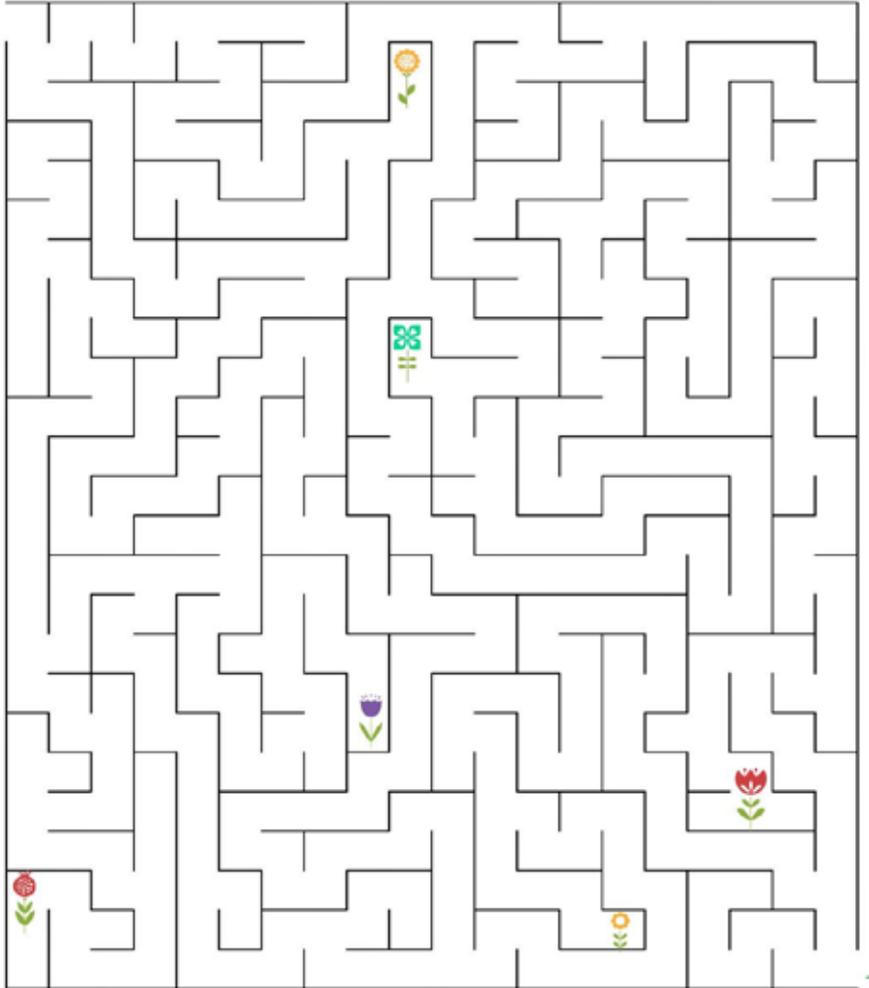
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Tulip Crafts!



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- Plastic/wooden forks
- Paint
- Tissue paper
- Ribbon

1. Start by painting your fork handles green and the tops of your fork your chosen flower colour
2. Wait to dry and add some tissue paper leaves
3. Wrap them in ribbon and gift them to someone special!

Spring Fact file

Tulips are one of the first spring flowers and mean happiness.

Spring marks the end of hibernation for animals like black bears.

Ducks hatch during the spring.

The word spring originated in the early 14th century.

This page sponsored by





ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

The theme of this article this month will be 'as far as we know'. If the Government's 'Road Map' out of lockdown remains unchanged we will be able to meet in groups of 6 just a few days before this magazine hits your doormat. Whether the problems on mainland Europe will influence that program remains to be seen. As far as we know (told you) everything remains on course but nothing is certain enough to allow the league to make any dramatic announcements.

One thing is certain, our World Tour will be cancelled and we will have to go somewhere else instead.

With the season fast approaching, chronologically anyway, work on the green has intensified of late. It has been fertilised, slitted and cut and is going to be spiked and cut a few times before we open it in mid-April, by which time we may be able together in greater numbers or very soon thereafter at least. Groups of 6 will work quite well but does mean that the green will be in use for several days each week and, with continuing maintenance work, this will take a bit of organising. Fortunately, we are a happy band of easy-going bowlers so I see no problems making such a system work. This month's photos are from a recent maintenance session but there is a distinct possibility of action shots next issue. That is, of course, as far as we know.

Peter Edmonds

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Makes it easy!

After some 18½ years of opening up The Mace shop on Station Road at 5.30am each weekday – someone is bound to point out that this is, give or take a leap year or 4, some 4,810 very early mornings – Stephen and Paul are handing on their business, and the invaluable community service that goes with it, to Thiva.

Back in 2002 they took the shop over from Barry and Jan Edwards, who had, 2 years previously, themselves taken over from Neil King who had retired after 32 years of being, 'King's Stores'.

The two had met when Paul bought the bakery in Hastings where Stephen was working and, because they got on so well, when the bakery business was sold on they took on the Stanton Cock pub together and, after a very successful 8 years there, eventually, bought the shop in Elmswell.

At the end of March, Paul retired to tend his garden at Thurston and Stephen returns to his home town of Hastings. Their colleague of some 11 years, Paula, is staying on to work with Thiva and will, no doubt, help ensure continuity of the community service which comes as an added extra to the everyday sales from the vast number of stock lines the shop carries.



Just a few of the dozens of cards from grateful customers



Paul, Stephen and Paula

That community aspect is, for some customers, and especially over the past year of lockdown, the only point of friendly, personal human contact they have in their day. There has been an element of social service as the Mace has provided unwritten and unadvertised deliveries on a daily basis to the doors of some of their disadvantaged and often vulnerable customers.

All of which allows for the shop to act as a clearing house for all the news – fit to print and otherwise – as well as the gossip, rumour and tittle-tattle that pre-dated Facebook and with none of the on-line venom.

As soon as the move was known, customers have sought to organise the chance for a proper farewell. Circumstances have, clearly intervened. However, Stephen is very happy to come back for any such event and Paul's only down the road...

so regular Mace customer Andrew Skinner has agreed to help co-ordinate something, all being well, after the much-anticipated 'release' date of 21st June.

Contact him at andrewskinner66@gmail.com or contact the Newsletter to stay in touch with the proposed arrangements as they emerge.

It may only be the end of a chapter, but a chapter that has delivered, for 18 years, a dependable, cheerful and resolutely personal service to all-comers throughout our community. For which, Stephen and Paul, we thank you!



It is with great sadness that I tell you that we have sold the Mace and we will be retiring stop I will be moving back to Hastings where I came from and Paul will be staying in Thurston. I would like to say a big thank you to my staff from over the years Paula Sophie Linda Dyke, Linda Ferguson, Roz, Ann, Emma, Kaylee, Natalie, Sarah, Carrie, and Clare. And thank you to all my customers for the past very happy 18 years

Steve

I will miss Steve and Paul very much and wish them both a wonderful retirement.

Paula

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - March 2021

The Government having passed emergency legislation to allow Local Government to continue within the law, local councils are currently permitted to meet 'virtually' over the internet and to properly make binding decisions. With neither Blackbourne or Wesley available for use within the prevailing lockdown restrictions the Parish Council convened using the Zoom internet video conferencing facility. The meeting was posted in the usual way, including on the Council's website, and details were clearly given as to how public attendance and contributions could be made either with a screen presence or over a telephone link if preferred. 8 Councillors attended along with 2 members of the public, District Council Ward Member Cllr Helen Geake and, for part of the meeting, SCC Ward Member Cllr Jane Storey.

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

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available online at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes, from the meeting on 18th January, as approved at this meeting, are posted on the community notice board at the Co-op.

Planning results

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

DC/21/00024 Erection of two storey rear extension at 11 Farm Meadow GRANTED

DC/21/00844 Discharge of Condition 7 (materials) at Land adjacent to Wetherden Road APPROVED

DC/20/05740 Erection of one, part single storey and part two storey dwelling... Bennetts Farm, Ashfield Road REFUSED

DC/18/04267 Discharge of Condition 3 (hedgehog friendly fencing) Land to the east of Borley Crescent APPROVED

DC/21/00596 Discharge of Condition 19 (Archaeological Works) Land to the east of Borley Crescent APPROVED

Planning Applications

The Meeting discussed a submission, as forwarded for comment by Mid Suffolk District

Council, the Planning Authority, and agreed to support application ref. DC/21/00916 for the erection of a front porch extension, following demolition of an existing porch, at The Brindles, Oak Lane

Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllrs Sarah Mansel and Helen Geake tabled a joint written report confirming the following: At the

February Council meeting, MSDC's next year's budget was agreed. There is to be a 1.66% increase in Council Tax despite budgeting for over £3M surplus each year for the next 3 years. Cross-party working groups are to be set up to decide how to spend approximately £4M across all parts of the organisation to help in the recovery following the pandemic. Since the Government removed the cap of rent increases, MSDC are to increase their Council House rent by Consumer Price Index+1% (this equates to approximately £1.25 per week increase). Sheltered Housing Service charges are to go up by £1 per week, but there are no changes to sheltered housing utility charges or garage rents. The Council has a Capital Programme 2021-24 to develop 254 affordable homes and 119 shared ownership homes. MSDC has engaged Icen Homes to identify development sites. Over the next 3 years it is hoped to bring forward sites at Cedars Park, Bacton and Haughley. MSDC are also bidding for acquisitions as requirements in Planning Permissions in several new developments all over the district. The Council has completed the procurement process and appointed a contractor to build the Needham Lake Visitor Centre and Café. The facility is a high quality and environmentally sustainable building which, it is hoped, will become a real asset to the Lakes as a tourist attraction and as a benefit to the local community. Waste collections throughout the District were disrupted by the snowy weather and crews have

been working on Saturdays to try to catch up. Collections are, largely, up to date. The Brown Bin service is set to resume on w/c 15th March in this area. Subscribers will have their payments adjusted to account for the missing collections. Meanwhile, the Councillors have allocated their annual Locality Budget to applicants within the Ward and confirmed that £4,265.72 had been granted towards the fencing and hedging of the newly acquired land at Blackbourne.

Suffolk County Council

County Council Ward Member, Cllr Jane Storey, tabled a written report which confirmed that the pandemic this year has significantly impacted on the council – not only has there been an expected £7.9m shortfall in the income from council tax, but progress of the council's transformation programmes, has had to be redirected to focus instead on community resilience. This has included redeploying staff into bespoke roles such as procuring personal protective equipment (PPE) to support Suffolk's care sector and adapting working practices for frontline staff to maintain effective social distancing measures. Many of the new ways of working adopted by the council during 2020 because of the pandemic may actually offer potential alternative transformation savings as the organisation continues to adapt and tailor the way it works to deliver services for Suffolk's communities.

In 2021/22, general Council Tax

will rise by 1.99%, which represents an increase of £26.68 for a Band D property, from £1,224.70 in 2020, to £1,251.38. There is also a 2% rise in the Social Care Precept for the forthcoming year as the council recognises the ongoing challenges in meeting the rising costs and rising demand for adult care services. This means a Band D property will see an overall rise of £53.55 this year for Suffolk County Council's element of their Council Tax bill, from £1,343.61 in 2020-21 to £1,397.16 in 2021-22.

Covid testing

The Clerk reported on his liaison with SCC and with the local team at the Blackbourne where free public lateral flow testing is available on weekdays, with or without an appointment. It seems likely that the centre will be open until at least June and possibly later as circumstances dictate. The usual booking patterns at Blackbourne will not be affected as the facility offers multiple options for meetings and activities and there are individual access doors to every room if so required.

Elmswell Tavern

The Elmswell Community Enterprise Group Limited (ECE), comprises 9 residents who came together to take further the scheme to refurbish the Railway Tavern, recently bought by the Parish Council on the village's behalf from Greene King, as a community pub. The group has now successfully registered with the Mutual Societies arm of the Financial Conduct Authority as a Community Benefit Society. A recent remote meeting was held with the professional adviser seconded to advise by the Plunket Foundation which provides practical advice, support and training to help communities establish and run successful community businesses

with long-term survival rates. The refurbished facility will be known as The Elmswell Tavern and the process has already begun by inviting expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced architects towards a concept plan for the development. Once a proposed way forward is chosen, the Group will invite investment through a Community Share Issue promoted through social media sites which are currently under construction. ECE will work together with the Elmswell Community Land Trust with a view to delivering locally controlled affordable housing on the Tavern site, as envisaged when the overall scheme was floated in the public consultation held in September 2019 which supported the overall scheme.

Primary school provision

The recently permitted development of 300 houses at Woolpit (ref. DC/21/01132) includes a requirement for land to be made available for a new primary school to serve both Elmswell and Woolpit. Elmswell School, despite a planned expansion, is not going to be big enough to take the projected influx from the 800+ new houses recently built, being built or due to be built in Elmswell by 2026. Elmswell Parish Council has long argued for primary school provision for Elmswell children to be provided in Elmswell, but this has not found favour with the strategic planners at Suffolk County Council. A developer has suggested that they would provide a suitable site in the village as part of their proposal for 170 more houses at Wetherden Road. Meanwhile, Councillors are to urge Mid Suffolk to take proper account of the detailed logistics involved in the delivery by bus, car, bicycle or on foot of a large number of Elmswell pupils who will have to travel every day over

A14 to 'their' new school at Woolpit. Such liaison must also consider the timing of the extra spaces provision given the rapid build-out of extant Permissions in Elmswell.

Recycling centre duties

The Trefoil Guild have visited, cleaned and tidied the recycling centre at Station Road every day for the past 3 months as part of the scheme which invites such stewardship from village clubs and organisations. In view of the excellent results, the Meeting agreed to make a grant of £150.00 to the Guild funds. Any group wishing to take part in this scheme is invited to be in touch with the Clerk.

Next Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 19th April at 7.30pm in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne or on-line should prevailing restrictions so require. If held live, the proceedings will also be open, through on-line conferencing, to all who notify the Clerk of their wish to be included. The notice of meeting on notice boards and on the Council's website, will include full details as to how to register to join. Current Government advice suggests that a 'blended' meeting with socially distanced participation but with on-line access will be possible in May. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council Committee meetings, both live and virtual, and the agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on-line at www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud, and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.



Future Council Meetings

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

Apr 19th May 17th June 21st July 19th Sept 20th

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 soon as tier 4 or any other restrictions allow, Blackbourne will be 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.

April 2021

- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
Making the Best of a Supermarket Bunch
Stephanie Lester

May 2021

- 5 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
Annual General Meeting

June 2021

- 2 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
The Work of a Parish Nurse - Lesley Williams

July 2021

- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
How To Look Good in a Bin Bag ! - Mandy Wild
13 Evening WI at Wesley

August 2021

- 4 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
Edith Cavell - A British Heroine -
Richard and Jill Mann

September 2021

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
Never Judge a Book by it's Cover
The ancient skill of bookbinding
Michael Holton
9 Elmswell History Group
Speaker to be confirmed

October 2021

- 6 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
Chile - the long thin country - Chris Parfitt

November 2021

- 3 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
Creat your own special bookmark for
Christmas
Materials provided - Jane Knights

December 2021

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon WI 2 pm
It's Christmas - Let's Celebrate !

STOP PRESS

Blackbourne and Wesley have bounced back before and will do so again - these are the activities that have told us they are ready to be up and running as soon as they are permitted to operate:

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

Slimming World - Tuesday mornings -
Jen.sw19@yahoo.com

Slimming World - Tuesday evenings

Ju jitsu - Monday & Wednesday evenings -
tel. Gary on **07711 680262**

Rainbows - Monday evenings -
elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com

Guides - Monday evenings -
gem_2910@hotmail.co.uk

Beavers - Tuesday evenings -
ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk



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Friday	7am - 1.30pm

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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

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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 – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midssuffolkcab.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 Spampinato	mariespampinato@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@midssuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Helen Geake	Helen.geake@midssuffolk.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	Gemma Sutton	gem_2910@hotmail.co.uk	
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
Rainbows	Marion Abbott	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
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
Wesley – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
WI - evening	Margaret Stevens	stevensmarg@tiscali.co.uk	408452
Youth Football	Chris Smyth	smyth98@hotmail.com	07717 841 591

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

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