

'Like a friend
dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter

SUFFOLK
NEWSLETTER
OF THE YEAR
2009/2010/2011/2013/2014/2015/2017

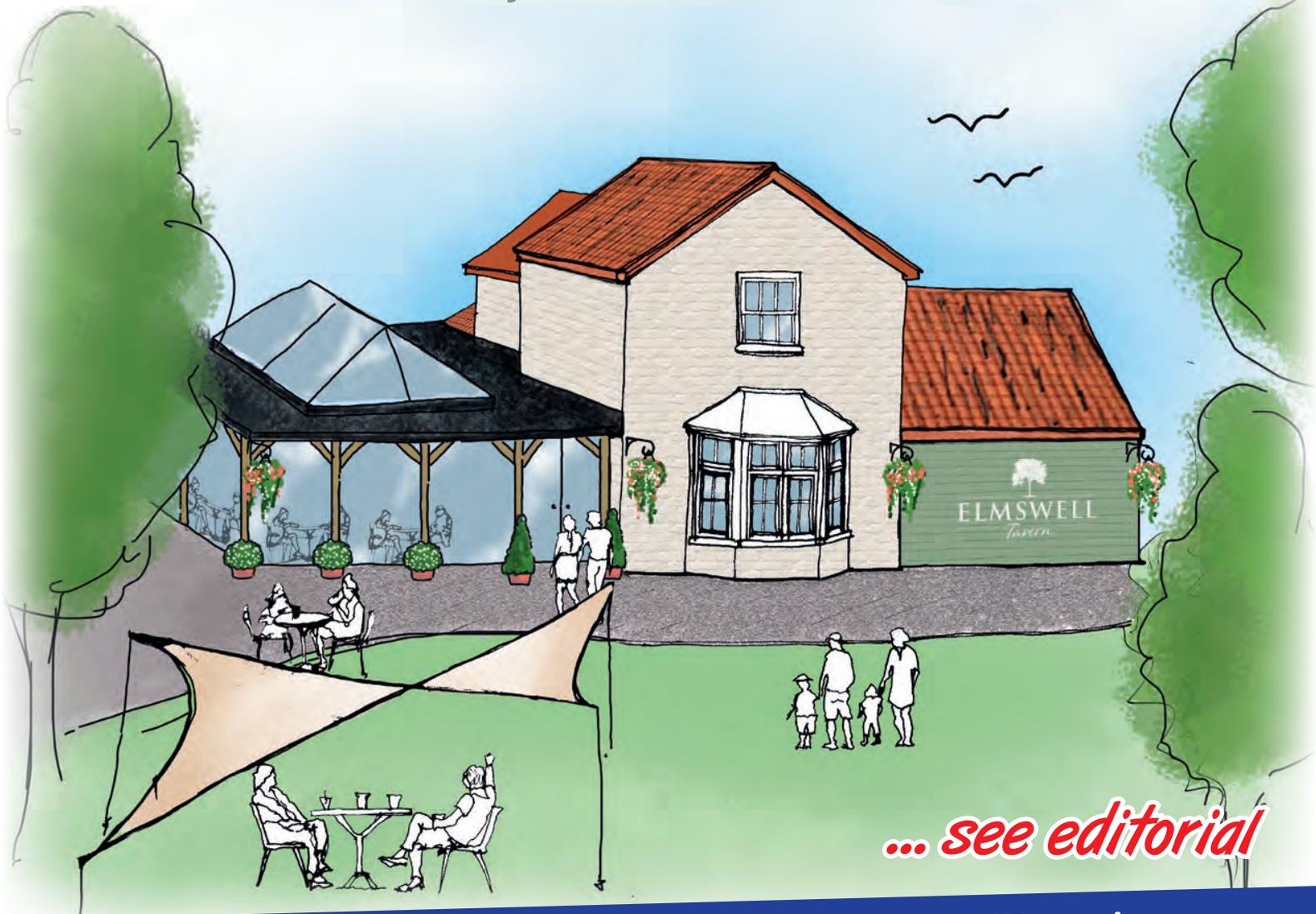
More than thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

JULY 2021

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud

ELMSWELL

Tavern



... see editorial

Monthly footpath walks are back... meet at the village sign,
11.00am Sunday 11th July, 4 miles easy walking

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
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Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate. If you wish to comment, please do so via the office or by email at; eaa.elmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.



Some questions are not asked in the expectation of being answered. One such is often posed regarding the relationship between bears and woods.

Other questions contain the germ of the answer, as in: "Debbie, why did you marry the millionaire Paul Daniels?"

There are, famously, questions which are themselves forgotten, but the response lives on, as with, "Don't tell him, Pike", whilst others are posed from generation to generation...who *did* kill Roger Rabbit, and will Wally ever be found?



Elmswell has a recent history of being questioned. The formal way to do this is through what's called a Parish Poll, run by Mid Suffolk like an election. In June 2015, the village was asked:

Given that:

- Funding is very unlikely to be obtained for keeping the old Wesley Hall as it now stands on the Methodist Chapel site in School Rd, and,
- There will be a very limited time scale for grant aid bids before the site is sold for development.

Question: Do you want Elmswell Parish Council to pursue the best chance for keeping the site as a community facility by

- Bidding for its retention without the existing halls,
- Working on the proposals for upgrading and modernising the chapel to accommodate the existing users and attract a wider range of future users, and,
- Working towards making the facility financially viable?

The answer was 'yes'. The result is Wesley, as featured on page 3.

Right answer!

Next Question.

This one was posed in a consultation flyer which went, in your Newsletter in September 2019 , to every household.

Once again, the village's response was positive and we have reported, month by month, the slow steady progress towards the establishment of the Elmswell Community Land Trust to bring forward the community-owned affordable homes plus the registration of Elmswell Community Enterprise, Limited (ECE), a Community Interest Company with the stated aim of developing Elmswell Tavern as a community owned pub.

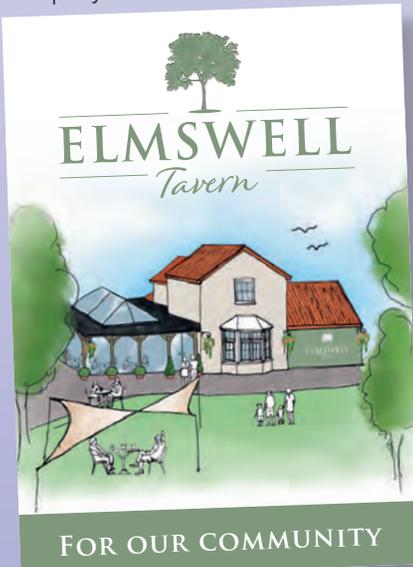
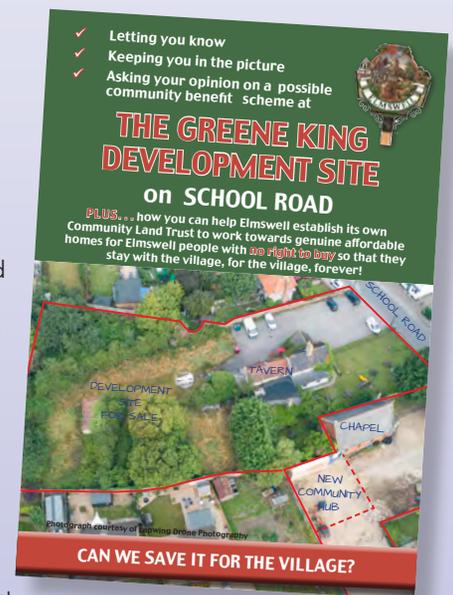
Next Question.

Are we willing to be partners in taking the community pub forward by purchasing shares in the enterprise?

It's very straightforward. Now that the ECE is 'official' and under the strict rules and governance of the Financial Standards Authority it can offer shares, just like a commercial company, but with very important safeguards – such as that every shareholder, however large, has only one vote and the company can never be 'taken over'...it belongs to Elmswell, represented by ECE, for ever. ECE is a community body with an AGM at which members, the shareholders, vote in – or out – the Management Committee.

There are over 20 very successful community pubs in East Anglia – The Sorrell Horse at Somersham, the Cross Keys at Redgrave, the Racehorse at Westhall, The Locks at Geldeston... just some examples, but all have taken this route to assuming control of their local. It allows the inclusion in the 'bottom line' of an unseen and unquantifiable profit – the community benefit. Without a giant Pubco breathing down the manager's neck, consideration can be given to 'community hub' activities. Some house a village shop or post office – all offer meeting space for the residents to gather without regard for making a profit beyond break-even, although they all actually do rather well and feed profits back to their host community.

However, unlike the TV quiz questions, answering this one correctly will actually cost you money. The money's safe - it's invested in the property and you can ask for it back - but the more we chip in the more ambitious can be the extension and refurbishment of the pub. The flyer that came with your Newsletter is the first hint, our Starter-for-Ten. Next month we have been asked to help deliver details of the Share Issue Prospectus which will have full particulars of the framework within which we are invited to invest.



A brilliant opportunity to help Elmswell move forward?

No question.



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

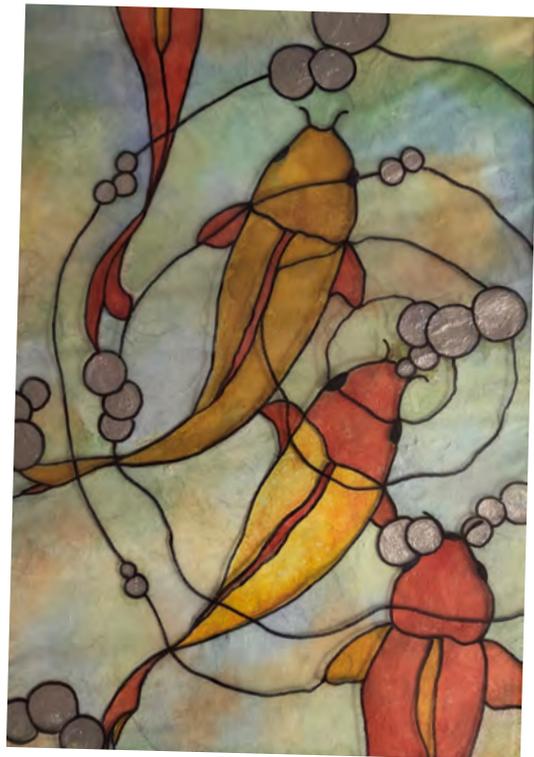
Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow mindedness and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating on one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime.

These sentiments were written over 100 years ago by the American writer, Mark Twain and are as relevant today as they were when first penned. Travel broadens the mind and provides an opportunity to see at first hand how other people and nations run their lives, what makes them tick, their history, their traditions and art. All aspects of art can be more readily appreciated "in the flesh" as it were rather than simply looking at a photograph. Buildings, together with decorations they feature, can be awe inspiring. Islamic art is wonderful to see and appreciated with such magnificent features and intricate details, often in ceramic mosaics. For 700 years the Moors from Morocco lived in and controlled large parts of southern Spain and they left behind many outstanding buildings for us to marvel at nowadays. In Granada, the Alhambra (Arabic for Red Castle) has some magnificent wall decorations, the Alcazar in Seville, together with the magnificent cathedral wherein lies the tomb of Christopher Columbus, are outstanding and in Córdoba there is the interesting and diverse Mesquite Mosque-Cathedral, part Christian and part Muslim showing such a variety of styles which all seem to fit in. The Middle East may not be everyone's idea of a holiday

destination, so go to Turkey, a Muslim country where Islamic art and style is abundant and proudly on display. The brilliant mosques with their tall, slim minarets dominate Istanbul, for example the Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, the Topkapi Palace with its fantastic wall decorations are international gems. While you are there, a visit to the Souk is a must. Here you will find artisan art in profusion and if you haggle you can obtain ceramics, clothing and materials, tin and metalware and enough gold goodies to keep anyone happy for years. And the Medjoul dates are to die for! A trip around the city will reveal artisan art everywhere.

Go further afield to the Pacific North West of America, Alaska and British Columbia and you can see large scale art all over the place on public display and at no cost. I'm talking about totem poles. One of the best public viewing sites for these awe inspiring towering creations is Stanley Park in Vancouver BC., entry is free. These magnificent carvings made from large trees, mostly Pacific Red Cedar, but also posts or pillars have a number of reasons for their creation and represent a number of different ideas to the Native Americans and First Nation peoples who created them. They do not represent gods or deities. They can be recording a big event in the tribe's history, or an individual or could be mortuary poles. They all have a reason for their construction. Some,

temporary in nature, are "Shame" poles. These are to embarrass or shame someone who has done wrong to the tribe and are the only poles that might show the offenders image, but not always. An American oil company executive was shown once because the company had not paid compensation to the tribe due to damage done to tribal lands because of an oil spill at Valdez. Once the wrong was righted the pole was removed as with all Shame poles. Nice way of



protesting! The images and symbols on totem poles are of faces, eagles, killer whales, beavers, bears, thunderbirds and frogs plus others. They are still being carved today as they were centuries ago. The images of the creatures can be seen everywhere throughout the region, on vehicles, buildings, clothing, sports equipment as well as gifts and carvings for visitors to take home as mementoes. A really lovely way to bring art to the masses. Travel, as with so many aspects of today's lifestyles has been severely restricted and one can only hope that the world can beat this awful virus and some kind of normality return. I know everyone in the art club is looking forward to resuming our friendly, informal and carefree meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.

Our two paintings this month are by Pat Quick who really does try new methods and materials. The first is called the Tree of Life and was done in ink and gesso. The fishes were created using tissue paper with watercolour paint on watercolour paper and Perspex to give the appearance of water. Brilliant!

John Welford
01359 240166



If you are the low man on the Totem Pole remember... if it wasn't for you the whole thing would fall over.



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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON WI

Well here we are again ! I think I need to make a record of this statement. Sadly, and due to the updated government restrictions we will **now not be able to meet in July**. Our first meeting will now be on Wednesday 4th August, same place, same spot on the dial.



Connie emailed me having seen an article in the newspaper this morning. Another W.I. Group believe that if they reconvene wearing football kit they can then hug, kiss (not sure about that) cheer and generally mingle at close quarters. This conjures up entertaining visions in my mind, hence the picture. I don't mind as long as I can be in the goal, and only need to throw myself to one side, the other side and upwards.

I have been in touch with Jill & Richard Mann and they will come next year, in May to be exact. Our original plan for July will move

forward to August. I suspect that our first meeting will be a bit chaotic. Lots to discuss, new members to get to know and more subscriptions to collect. Never mind we will do as always, take it in our stride, Keep Calm & Carry on. The most important thing is to enjoy being together again after so long. The committee met for the first time on 9th June. We planned our W.I. meeting in July (never mind) and discussed other matters. Birthdays will still be marked with a card for the remainder of the year. We will try and think of something different next year. The Raffle and Competition won't take place this year. Again we will rethink these things for next year.

We also discussed the annual outing but Mr. Perry has retired and we will have to find new transport. It may be possible for us to do a trip to Scotsdales closer to Christmas but this is very much in the air at present. We will talk about this at one of our next meetings and then you can add your own thoughts.

To any ladies keen to try us out you are welcome. Just join us on the day for a free taster or contact Mary on 01359 245022 or me on 241033.

Keep Safe everyone.

Maureen



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



WESLEY Coffee Shop... We are open!



Like so many other things, Wesley is gradually coming to life after seemingly endless months of stop and start, of being ready and eager to serve but unable to do so.

We are now open from 9.00am – 4.00pm every weekday and on Saturdays, indoors and out, and keen to have you sample our coffees, teas and cold drinks together with Val's cakes, scones and sausage rolls.

Other attractions include Elmswell's answer to Dueling Banjos, the ukulele group, visits from the mobile refill shop and pop-up table-top sales of allotment & garden produce. More in the pipeline as normality creeps back.

The formal opening by Jo Churchill MP is still very much happening, date to be announced as soon as certainty can be guaranteed. Meanwhile, do wander along. In a sea of uncertainty, the welcome is guaranteed.



ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

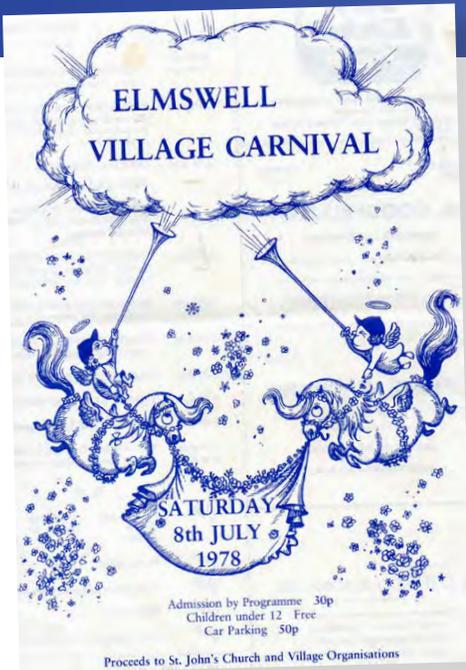
Now that our delightful PM and his scientific advisers have given us the disappointing news of Freedom Day's postponement yet again, we're still hoping to hold a committee meeting a.s.a.p. and AGM thereafter, but can plan no further than that at present. When the Wesley can have its official opening (after 19th July?), we hope to have a small table display there and copies available of our 2021-22 Programme of monthly talks due to start on 9th September.

Meanwhile, by courtesy of www.historic-uk.com, here are some past events which all happened in the month of July.

Date	Year	
1st	1838	British scientist Charles Darwin presented a paper to London's Linnean Society (founded in 1788), on his theory of the evolution of species and natural selection.
2nd	1644	Parliamentarian forces defeated Prince Rupert at the Battle of Marston Moor, their first victory over the Royalists in the English Civil War.
3rd	1996	It was confirmed that the Stone of Scone, the symbol of the Scottish nation taken by England's King Edward I in 1296, was to be returned to Scotland from Westminster Abbey where it has been used in the coronation of 30 British monarchs over the past 700 years.
4th	1776	Congress accepted the Declaration of Independence written by Thomas Jefferson, formally ending American links with Britain.
5th	1791	George Hammond was appointed the first British Ambassador to the USA.
6th	1535	Former favourite of King Henry VIII, Sir Thomas More, was executed after refusing to recognise the King as the head of the Church.
7th	1307	English King Edward I (conqueror of Wales and "Hammer of the Scots") died on the way to Scotland to fight Robert the Bruce.
8th	1822	Leading romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley drowned in the Bay of Spezia, when his boat sank.
9th	1877	The inaugural Lawn Tennis Championship was played on top of the croquet lawns at Wimbledon.
10th	138	Death of the Roman Emperor Hadrian who ordered the building of a wall across northern England to keep out the barbarian Scottish tribes.
11th	1578	The start of Queen Elizabeth I's Summer Progress through East Anglia, visiting Bury St Edmunds, Norwich, and Thetford (amongst others).
12th	1910	British pilot Charles Stewart Rolls, 33, died after his French-built biplane crashed at a flying competition in Bournemouth. He was a partner in the Rolls-Royce car manufacturing company.
13th	1923	The British parliament passed a law banning the sale of alcohol to under-18s.
14th	1858	Birthday of Emmeline Pankhurst, English suffragette who suffered imprisonment in order to gain the vote for women.
15th	1857	200 British men, women and children are chopped up by local butchers and thrown down a well at Cawnpore, as the Indian Mutiny continued.
16th	1557	Death, from natural causes, of Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of Henry VIII.
17th	1453	French troops defeated the English at Castillon, effectively ending the Hundred Years' War; Calais remained under English control.
18th	1920	750,000 war dead were commemorated with the unveiling of a new national monument in London's Whitehall. The Cenotaph took its name from the Greek words 'kenos' and 'taphos' meaning empty tomb.
19th	1545	King Henry VIII looked on as his newly refitted flagship the Mary Rose sank in the Solent, off England's south coast, with the loss of 700 lives.
20th	1588	The Spanish Armada, consisting of 130 warships, set sail for England from Corunna.
21st	1969	The Eagle spaceship landed on the moon, and US astronaut Neil Armstrong was the first man in history to walk on its powdery surface.
22nd	1946	More than a year after the end of WW2, bread was rationed in Britain; the shortage was blamed on a poor harvest and drought.
23rd	1940	WW2's Local Defence Volunteers changed its name to the Home Guard. The one million-strong force, which included many WW1 veterans, was intended to form Britain's last line of defence against the expected German invasion. (Elmswell was home to 'F' Company 3rd Battalion Home Guard; in 1941 they had 63 men, 51 rifles, 4 automatic rifles and a Browning machine gun.)
24th	1567	Mary Queen of Scots abdicated after defeat by the Protestants at Carberry Hill, East Lothian.
25th	1814	The chief engineer at the Killingworth colliery, George Stephenson, unveiled Blucher, a steam-powered locomotive that could haul eight carriages loaded with 30 tons of coal at the break-neck speed of 4mph.
26th	1978	The world's first test-tube baby was born in Oldham General Hospital near Manchester. Gynaecologist Patrick Steptoe and physiologist Dr Robert Edwards were credited with this pioneering work.
27th	1953	The Korean War was formally ended with the signing of a peace agreement at Panmunjom. The three-year conflict had consumed an estimated five million lives.
28th	1540	A busy day for King Henry VIII as he had Thomas Cromwell beheaded and then went on to marry Catherine Howard.
29th	1588	The Spanish Amada was sighted off the Cornish coast. Under the command of Charles Howard and Francis Drake, the English fleet set sail from Plymouth, to establish the birth of British naval supremacy.
30th	1966	England won the Jules Rimet trophy, Association Football's World Cup, at London's Wembley Stadium, after beating Germany 4-2 in extra time.
31st	1667	The Second Anglo-Dutch War ended with the peace of Breda. The Dutch acknowledged the loss of Delaware and New Jersey, while New Amsterdam was renamed New York.



Elmswell Homeguard - Second World War 1939-45



Arguably the most significant event to happen here in our own village in a past July was the Elmswell Carnival on 8th July 1978.

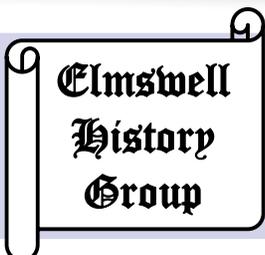
Lots of information and pictures are on our website link - <https://www.elmswell-history.org.uk/archive/elmswell-picture-archives/people/elmswell-carnival-1978/2/>



Officers and NCOs Elmswell Home Guard

Back Row: Ernie Bennett, Henry Jewers, Percy Manning, Sid Atkins, Wilfrid Hammond, Eric Knights

Front Row: Dennis Dyball, Bill Phillips, Bill Goymer, Jack Henderson, McNeil, Walter Howe, Sid Baker, Arthur Fenton



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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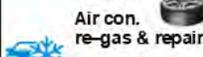
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ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB



Where is this year going? The cold winter months seem to slow down time, but our summers race along and before we know it we're on the cusp of autumn. The wonderful thing about gardening is that no matter what the time of year, there's always something to delight the senses, be it fabulous colours, elegant forms or delicious scents.

I find it almost impossible to select a single favourite flower, fruit or vegetable. I love the flamboyance of hollyhocks and their variety of colours. They seem to be irresistible to bumble bees, but I also adore pinks and sweet peas with their old-fashioned heady scent. Then there are the sunflowers – which can grow astonishingly tall with a single flower or tuck in at the back of a border throwing out dozens of cheery flower heads. Not least among flowers is the poppy – last year the fields were awash with them – glorious drifts of colour, contrasting with the brown earth, yellowing fields and clear blue skies. So heavenly, so Suffolk!

Just a quick reminder of the EGC future EGC events;

September 21st - Dr Ian Bedford *'The trouble without wasps'*

19th Oct - Mrs Pat Hodgkins (National Trust) *'Constable – the man and his landscape'*

Nov 16th brief AGM followed by a chance to test your gardening knowledge.

We are very keen to welcome new members and hope that you will give us a try.

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 is a good way of asking a question that will be swiftly answered.



COMPANIONS

Check your diaries as we re-commence "COMPANIONS" on FRIDAY 23rd JULY at the Wesley Hall and it will be so good to be back together again.

However, the formal opening by Jo Churchill on the 9th July has had to be postponed.

**See you soon and stay safe,
Linda Waspe 01359 242224**

ELMSWELL WHEN OVER 55'S CLUB

Since our last report there has been very little happening every one looking forward to June 21st for an update on what is expected on "B" day(Boris day) However things have been put on hold for a further 4 weeks before we may be free .

We have two important birthdays coming up in July our chairman will be 80 on the 6th and Alan Goymer will reach the same milestone on July 18th we wish them both a Happy Birthday from everybody ,it had been hoped that they would have been celebrating with a joint party at the Blackbourne but covid restrictions will not allow more than 40 people to gather in the Chamberlin Hall so things are on hold for the time being.

In the mean time as long as restrictions are lifted our first meeting is booked for Thursday September 9th when we have asked "Times Past" to come along to entertain us hopefully every one will be in good voice .

From the Committee



WESLEY Coffee Shop... We are open!

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

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 web site or Facebook for details.

Greetings from St John's Church.

Hello from St John's Church.

Although we were still unable to join in the singing together during June (except outside for the final song of praise), we have enjoyed gathering together each Sunday at 10:30am. Church is about community, gathering together to encourage one another as we praise God for his goodness and hear from his Word, the Bible. We look forward to continuing to meet and, hopefully, soon sing too.

A special service in June was the Service of Reflection, Healing and Wholeness held on the afternoon of June 20. It is important to recognise the emotional and spiritual strains we have been exposed to over the past 16 months and allow God's healing touch into our lives. To enable us to process and recuperate from our pandemic experience, I have found these questions helpful. Why not grab a cup of tea or coffee and spend 30 minutes of so reflecting on them? Perhaps scribble down some thoughts as you go.

Thanksgiving – What can you be thankful for?

Think of small daily things, such as



food, as well as bigger things like our amazing NHS.

Lament – What are you missing and longing for?

This may include people or hopes that are lost or dashed hopes. You may find reading Psalm 42 helpful at this point (simply Google it if you don't have a Bible).

Learning – What have you learned?

Is there anything God wants you to learn from your experience? What might you now do differently as a result of the pandemic?

Prayer – Pray for people, situations and concerns (local and global)

Why not give prayer a go - it's amazing what God can do!

Remember we continue to meet in St John's Church weekly at 10:30am each Sunday. Please do join us. We keep plenty of social distance and there is plenty of hand sanitizer. Sunday School takes a break in July, but families are always welcome, especially at our All Age Service on 4 July.

Please note our midweek online services will cease in July.

Diary for July:

Sunday 4 July:

9:00am Lord's Supper (spoken service)

10:30am All Age Service

Sunday 11, 18, 25 July:

10:30am Sunday Worship

We hope to also stream the services on 18 and 25 July.

Sunday 1 August:

9:00am Lord's Supper (spoken service)

10:30am All Age Service

Every Saturday:

9:00am Weekly prayer meeting online (see website for details)



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a lovely way to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other occasion special to you. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation. And it all helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

For the summer months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight.

A night's floodlighting costs £5. Cheques payable please to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

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(Tel: 240908). Thank you.

JULY 2021 SPONSORSHIPS

- 2 in memory of Betty Peachey.
- 7 in loving memory of my wonderful wife, Rosemary, loving mother to Amber and Ashton, and grandmother to Saffron, Ethan and Charlotte. Died suddenly on 7th July 2020, four days before our Golden Wedding Anniversary. "Will always be loved and remembered by us all". Ian. xxx.
- 8 in loving memory of my wonderful wife, Rosemary, loving mother to Amber and Ashton, and grandmother to Saffron, Ethan and Charlotte. Died suddenly on 7th July 2020, four days before our Golden Wedding Anniversary. "Will always be loved and remembered by us all". Ian. xxx.
- 15 in loving memory of Ivy Millicent Elliston.
- 17 in loving memory of our lovely daughter Margaret Cowland, nee Castle.

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28



- 20 in memory of Reginald Bloomfield.
- 21 in loving memory of my husband William Clark (Bill), on his Birthday.
- 23 in loving memory of Thomas Clover.
- 25 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire- Fighters who served their village and community so well.

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MASS TIMES:

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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
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front of Our Lady's Church, in the
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ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Well June 21st came and went and we are still in the grips of Covid regulations wearing masks in church not singing or sitting close together and not enjoying refreshments after the service lets hope and pray that the new date of 19th July doesn't change and we can get back to normal worship. We continue to pray for all NHS workers currently spending their days working with at least a face mask on and sometimes a visor as well. Its bad enough when we have to wear a mask in shops and public buildings for a short time to have to wear one for a whole working shift must be close to unbearable, they are all heroes in my eyes. As a nation we are so lucky to have such a wonderful health service that is available to us all 24/7 long may it be continue.

We are meeting in church each Sunday at 10.30 am adhering to the Covid regulations, wearing masks, sitting two meters apart, not singing, not having refreshments afterwards, and not socialising for too long.

Our services for July will be led by:-

- 4th July Rev Graeme Ross our Regional Minister (Communion Service)
- 11th July Stephen Horrex
- 18th July Rev Barbara Challis
- 25th July Rev Norman Tharby

We look forward to September when our Food and Friends Lunches and Ladies Friendship Group meetings restart and we will really be back to normal let's all hope that no more new variants will raise their ugly heads and spoil the return to our usual way of life. We like many other churches pray for the scientists, doctors, and medical experts who are advising the government that they come to the right conclusions when studying all the data about the disease so that we don't have to have any further lockdowns.

As always a warm and friendly welcome awaits anyone wishing to join us for services or any of our activities. Please contact Tony on 01359 241541 for any information or go to our website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk

Dave Hollings

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION YOUR INVITATION...



In 2022, Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6th February 1952 at the age of just 25. There will be year-long Platinum Jubilee celebrations and an extended bank holiday, from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June presenting an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate the historic milestone.

One such opportunity is the chance to join a Big Jubilee Lunch. Every year since the idea began in 2009 the Big Lunch has encouraged communities to celebrate their connections and to get to know each other a little bit better,

coming together in a spirit of fun and friendship. In 2022 the Big Lunch will bring the jubilee celebrations into the heart of every community

Individuals and groups are therefore invited to share friendship food and fun with neighbours by helping to organise the Elmswell Big Jubilee Lunch as a street party, as a picnic, as tea and cake as a big garden barbecue – as whatever best fits our community on this unique occasion.

If you are keen to help to be involved or to organise Elmswell's event please be in touch with any parish councillor or with Ann at the Parish Clerk's office on 244134 or at clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



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Meadow Brown

NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



Hats off, Thomas & Young!

About 18 months ago when we were planting one of our mini meadows in the green area off Church Road we re-discovered the maze which had been installed over twenty years ago and was then completely overgrown. It was nearly invisible and many people didn't know it was even there. Groups of hard working volunteers set to and cleared all the weeds to reveal the pattern of concentric rings that makes up the puzzle. It looked great and we decided to try and keep it maintained. However, that was before all the lockdowns started and since then it hasn't been easy to get together enough people to get the work done. That was until a group of volunteers from Thomas & Young financial advisers in Bury donated their time and effort into helping us with this time-consuming task. On a very hot day in June they swapped their laptops for spades and edging tools and set about sprucing up the maze with gusto. We got it done in three hours! It was very hard work as each brick has to be edged on both sides, and there are a

lot of bricks! So a huge thank you to the T&Y team. It looks great now, especially with all the wildflowers in bloom around the sun-dial. It's definitely worth a stroll over there to take a look.

Mini meadows – about to get larger

All of our mini meadows are looking at their best now. They are in four locations around the village, if you haven't yet seen them – around the maze, next to the station (by the recycling centre), next to the library, and around the village sign. Ox-eye daisy is in the ascendant, as it is in many roadside verges, but if you look a bit closer you can see lots of other wildflowers, such as the Viper's bugloss shown in our photo. They are all buzzing with insects.

Now we're hoping that wildflower meadows can establish over larger areas in the village. Mid Suffolk District Council has announced a new scheme to encourage wildflowers to grow by altering the mowing regime of the grassed areas that they currently look after. The aim is to leave the grasses to grow for a longer period and to allow any wildflowers to germinate and set seed. At the moment the grass is 'manicured', cut very short so that any flowers trying to get through are decapitated before they have a chance to bloom, let alone set seed. We're all in favour, and we hope that residents will be too. We know that some people like short grass and think that the meadows will look scruffy.

But it is possible to have both – mown grass where people can walk, alongside more flowery areas where the insects can thrive.

The problem with manicured grass is that it's basically sterile with nothing to offer the insects and pollinators that we all depend on for many of our foods and crops. In short grass you'll never see any of the fabulous creatures that can be found basking and buzzing in meadows, including a huge variety of bees and butterflies. And what about *Oedemera nobilis*, shown in our photo? This gorgeous beastie, also known as the Thick-legged flower beetle, can be spotted posing on open-structured flowers such as Ox-eye daisy and Dog rose. Its metallic sheen and amazing bulgy legs make it easy to identify. Only the male sports these appendages, however; the female (also pictured) has much slimmer legs (naturally!) but is equally beautiful. Once you look closer, who knows what else you might find?

Many towns, villages and even cities are now recognising the importance of wildflowers and the pollinators they support and are re-thinking the maintenance regimes of their amenity areas. We hope that Elmswell can join this initiative and bring the wildflower meadows that many of us remember from our younger days right into the village for everyone to enjoy.

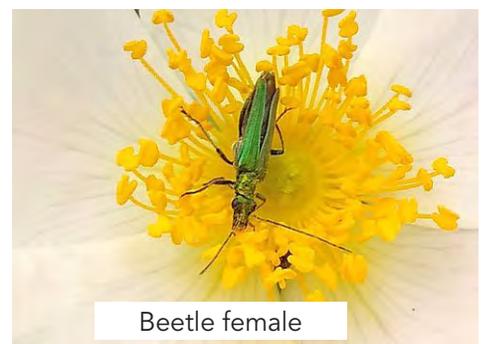
Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



Beetle male



Viper's bugloss



Beetle female

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Switching your engine off at the level crossing is one piece in a very big jigsaw - getting the, 'switch-it-off', habit will, day by day help reduce emissions and make the air we all breathe in Elmswell that bit cleaner. With huge challenges like the climate emergency we naturally look to government, local and national, to determine big changes - but as drivers we can all collectively make millions of small changes that will help make a difference. And one of those small changes - what the scientists call a behavioural adjustment - is to think about the impact on the air we breathe of a vehicle engine idling and switch it off.

But, think on! It's not just at the crossing gates that we see the air filling with fumes and particulates while vehicles idle, going nowhere. Walk past the Mace shop in the morning and hear the steady throb of internal combustion from vehicles - cars, vans and lorries - burning fuel and depositing the literally poisonous residues in the air that the rest of us are breathing. No doubt the driver has just, 'nipped in' for a scratch card, but the real gamble is with everyone else's lives.

Or the dawn chorus during colder months...engines ticking over in driveways or at the kerb to warm up the car so that the driver doesn't have the 3 minute job of scraping or demisting. 3 minutes of noxious contribution to the neighbours' breathing space. Perhaps most confusing, the mums and dads who bring their kids up to the excellent EYFC junior football sessions at Blackbourne at the weekends. As the youngsters train and play in the fresh air, mum and /or dad sit in the big car, engine on, heater or aircon on, immersed in very important mobile phone business for a full training session. A few yards away from the children they care about.

It is a very big jigsaw; every piece of it matters.

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"From start to finish you kept us informed on everything, making the whole experience stress-free."

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ANOTHER BANK CLOSES...

For over 20 years, Boltons have served Mid Suffolk with collections of waste paper from the towns and villages in their District.

This included at Elmswell, where our Station Road facility has 2 of the big metal units regularly filled- sometimes overfilled, as here, and the whole site kept neat and tidy by volunteers from community groups who benefitted from the payments on tonnage collected.

No More!

A few weeks back, and without notice, Boltons withdrew the service across the District.

The papers piled up nevertheless. Elmswell was offered a couple of ordinary wheelie bins which were filled up in a day. Our volunteers manfully struggled and the Clerk's van was busy.

In recognition of ours being an exemplary recycling centre, Mid Suffolk came to a site meeting to fill us in. They are, from now on, handling the waste paper collection in-house using adapted 1100litre wheelie bins – we shall have 2.



Emptied, we are promised, on demand. The financial contribution towards the volunteer groups will continue.

In the Meantime, please:

- Put your waste paper – no shredded paper – in your green recycling bin
- Once the paper banks are back please use them as before to ensure the recycling credits income for the village
- Observe the recycling guidance below...abuse of the system costs may tens of thousands of pounds each year in rejected batches containing contaminants such as food and nappies!



We ONLY want these items in your recycling bin

Items should be **EMPTY** **CLEAN** **DRY** **NO BAGGED ITEMS**

YES Plastics



Plastic bottles - empty, wash, squash and lid on



Plastic yoghurt pots, tubs and food trays



Bathroom and household cleaning with all tops on

YES Metals



Food and drinks cans

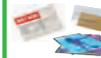


Aluminium foil and trays - roll foil into a ball



Empty aerosols - e.g. deodorant, air freshener

YES Paper/card



Paper, newspapers, magazines and junk mail



Cardboard, clean food packaging, boxes and cards



Books, paperback and hardback



Please NEVER put these items in your recycling bin

They will contaminate the recycling and YOUR BIN WILL NOT BE EMPTIED

NO Black sacks, plastic bags or wrappers



NO Food



NO Nappies



Put these in your rubbish bin

NO Glass



NO Textiles



NO Cartons e.g. Tetra Pak



These can be recycled elsewhere - see back cover

NO crisp packets - polystyrene - pet food pouches
 pill packs - toys - plant pots - tissues - kitchen roll
 wipes - shredded paper - wood - hazardous waste



CYCLING AND WALKING – what improvements would you like to see?

Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils have launched a consultation to find out what we, their residents, would like to see to improve the facilities and infrastructure affecting both walking and cycling in our communities.

More information and the chance to make your views known available at <https://baberghmidsuffolkactivetravel.commonplace.is/>



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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

We are pleased to say that many of our plans have not been disrupted despite restrictions not easing until at least 19th July.

We are looking for volunteers for the Summer Reading challenge and ELF (Elmswell Library Friends) are looking for volunteers including a new Chair.

Our baby bounce sessions have started 9.10am every dry Tuesday on the grass outside the library. These are nursery rhyme sessions for children not yet at school or nursery. Come along and join in with other parents and children. The Elmswell Library Friends have donated several brightly coloured outdoor cushions perfect for adults as well as kids to sit on and we have plenty of rhymes with actions.

Subject to the restrictions relaxing the Community Café is also restarting. This is a group for those new to Elmswell or people who feel a bit out of touch and would like to meet new people. The café is at 10.30am on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Fox. The first meeting is 10.30am on Wednesday 21st July.

The ELF AGM has been moved to 5.30pm on Wednesday 28th July and we will have local author Francesca Catlow discussing her Greek themed event to tie in with her new book, *The Little Blue Door*. Elmswell Library Friends are also looking for a new Chair so please let the Library or ELF know if you are interested or would like more information.

This month's display will be travelogues and other travel related books. We will have a mix of journeys by train, boat, car, plane in nearby but wonderfully described adventures or longer and more epic feats of adventure.

Lastly and possibly most excitingly the Summer Reading Challenge is back from 17th July. This year's theme is *Wild World Heroes*. The reading challenge runs during the summer holidays for pre-school and primary school children. Children read any 6 books they choose over the summer holiday. Each time they finish a book, they come to the library and tell our volunteers what they thought of it and in return they get a sticker and a prize. At the end of the challenge they get a certificate. Please get in touch if you want to volunteer 1 hour per week for the Summer Reading Challenge.

We regularly restock our supply of covid tests so if you need to pick 1 or 2 packs up, just pop in and get them. We have plenty to give out.

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?

Summer Reading Challenge

Saturday 17th July to Sunday 5th September

Baby Bounce

9.10am every dry Tuesday on the grass outside the library. Cushions provided.

The Keep in Touch Community Café

Starting again 10.30am on 21st July and then on 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Fox. (subject to easing of restrictions)

Lego Club

Lego ideas will be posted on Facebook every Sunday.

Elmswell Library Friends Group AGM

Updated 5.30pm on Wednesday 28th July

Opening times

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm

Wednesday: 2pm – 5pm

Thursday: 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm

Friday: 2pm – 5pm

Saturday: 10am – 1pm

Sunday: 10am – 3pm

ELMSWHEELIANS 2021

Sad news I afraid following on from the Prime Minister's latest missive on the Covid lockdown, I have to announce the cancellation of the first two rides planned for July (Thursday 1st July (**evening ride**) and **Thursday 15th July (evening ride)**).

Hopefully, we will still be able to do the one planned for **Friday 30th July (evening ride starting at 6.00 p.m. - 12/15 miles approx.)**

All very disappointing, but necessary unfortunately.

To remind everyone, 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 a day-time ride.

Ride details are always published in advance in the Monthly Newsletter.

If you are new in the village, or indeed, have lived here for a while, we always welcome new faces. There is no membership and nothing to pay. Just turn up, and join a group that will make you "feel at home".

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 !!

Do come and join us when we can get back on the road.

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



ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB

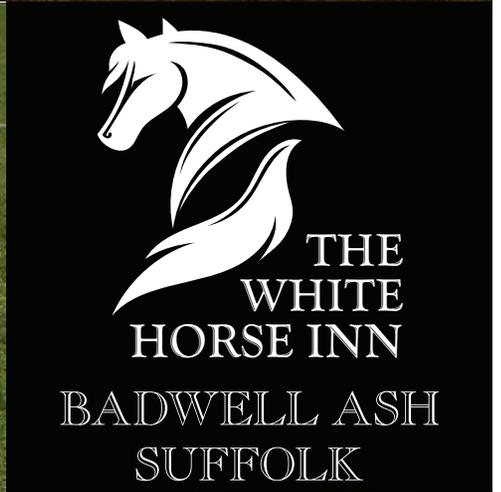


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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Not much of a Summer break this year and already we will be back to preseason, up Grove Lane, in the coming days! Tuesday 6th July is the planned date (Euro's Semi Finals permitting). We'd like to thank all of last year's sponsors for their kind and generous support and especially those who are continuing to help fund grassroots football in Elmswell again this coming season. If you'd be interested in helping us out or fancy seeing your company's advert on this page, please contact our Chairman Shaun Pratt on 07494868231. There are lots of costs throughout the year from balls, first aid kits and training equipment to nets, referees and line marking paint!

There's not too much to report at the moment except our excitement at getting started again and seeing lots of new faces, along with all the old familiar ones, gracing the Elmswell pitches. I'll leave you with a list of our Preseason Friendlies taking place in July. The new first team management, off to a fresh start, would love to see as many of you as possible up Grove Lane cheering the lads on.

First Team July Friendlies

- 14th July (Weds) - Old Newton Res (A) 6:30ko
- 17th July - Thetford Rovers (H)
- 24th July - Stanton (H)
- 31st July - Haughley Reserves (H)

Reserves July Friendlies

- 31st July Needham Phoenix (H)

Up the Elm!

Ed

EFC Club Secretary



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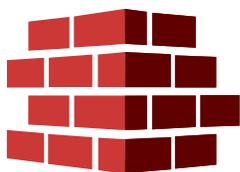
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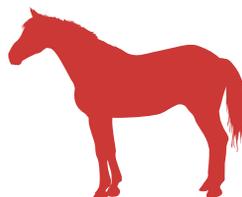
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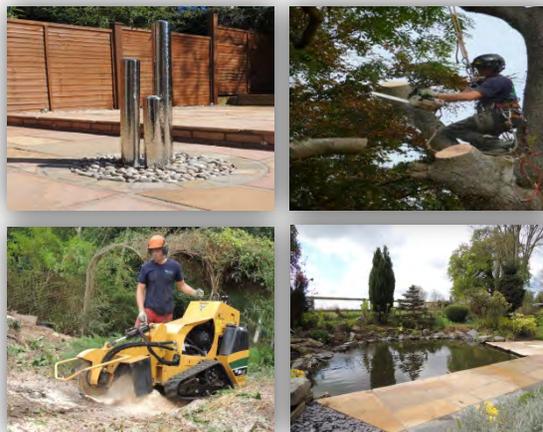
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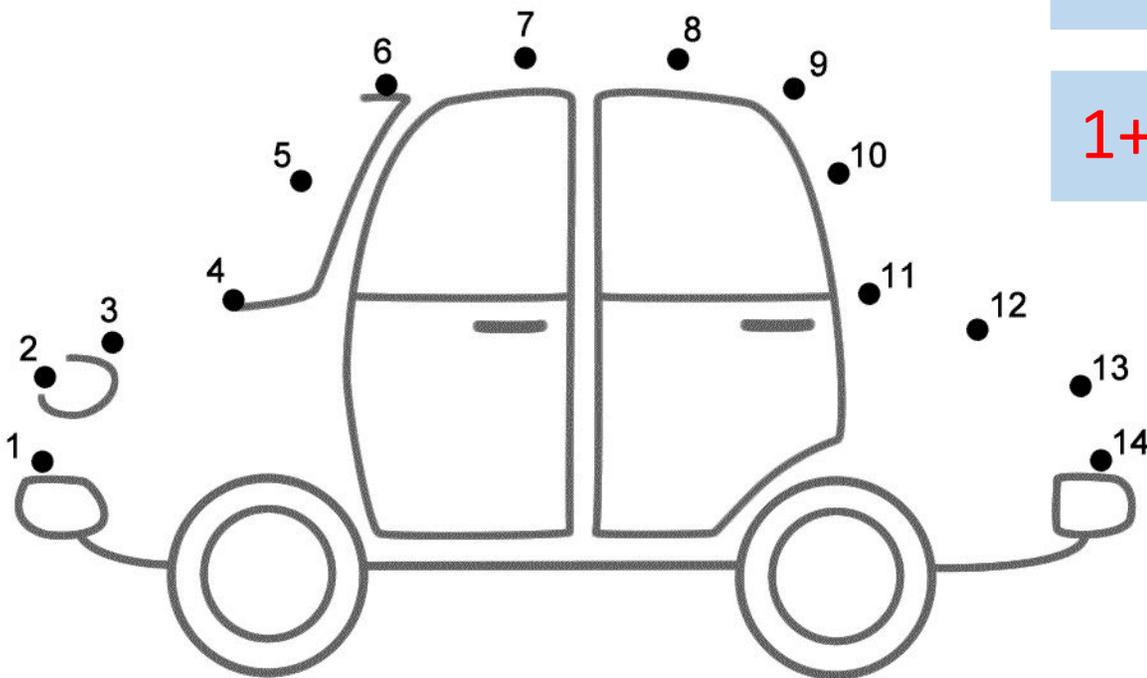
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Matching Quantities

Explore matching quantities at home. Place a number on your plates and using objects from around you home challenge your family member's sto match the correct amount of objects to each plate. How high can you get with your counting?

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ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

Friendlies are a thing of the past, for a couple of months, and it is full-on league tussles for the foreseeable. So far, it is a season of mixed fortunes for our teams, with some faring quite well and some struggling a bit. The Monday side has had one or two spankings as it tries to come to terms with life in Division 1 and, as there is no promotion or relegation this year, we won't be returned to where, I believe, we truly belong. I am not a negative person by nature but the League was started as a development league and we entered on that understanding. We had to take the chance to win when it presented itself and now we have to face the consequences, so we will have to make the best of it.

The Tuesday team has won the first round of the knock-out cup and has embarked on a Cup-Run! I will pause a

moment to let that sink in! I say 'won' but it was actually 'awarded' to but we are not quite sure why! Anyway, we got past West Row and now face Stowmarket Rookery where our 'run' may 'run' out of steam but we will give it a go.

The Thursday team are currently 5th in their league with every prospect of improving that slightly as results have been quite good. We were unceremoniously dumped out of the Junior Cup by Haughley P.F. with a 51-91 walloping so no Cup Glory ambitions there.

The Ukulele Band is becoming more and more diluted with non-bowlers, or bowlers from other teams, which is nice and essential if we are to grow as our Bandleader, Kevin, intends. We are now a round dozen and gaining in confidence and acumen, daily. Well, weekly, to be

accurate since we meet once per week. Anyway, the reason I mention it is that, with a constant stream of newcomers moving into the village, and this not being everybody's 'go to' page, our existence still isn't widely known and we would like to double our current number. You can speak to Kevin directly on 01359 240604.

This month's photos show club President, Dick, spectating at Greene King, craftily shielding his pint from the view of the cameraman and Phil Stabler, in the natty beige hat, at the same venue (note the barrels beyond the lovely flint wall). We visit some picturesque greens, for certain.

Peter Edmonds
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - June 2021



Restrictions which have, for some months, barred face-to-face meetings of Local Councils having been lifted the June meeting of the Parish Council took place in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne on Monday 21st with 9 councillors present, along with the Parish Clerk, SCC Ward Member Andy Mellen and District Councillor Helen Geake together with 3 members of the public.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which is made up of the Council Chairman, the Council Vice-chairman and Cllr Sue Roots, elected by her 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 meeting by external bodies such as the County and District Council 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 various Annual Reports as tabled at the meeting are printed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged in the Village Archive at Blackbourne and with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes, from the 22nd April Ordinary Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllrs Sarah Mansel & Helen Geake tabled a written report on the past month's BMSDC activities which confirmed that the Annual Council meeting had to be held at Wherstead Park on 24th May. This was the only place large enough to enable social distancing, but it was far from ideal. The Conservative and Independent group elected Conservative Paul Ekpenyong as the new Chairman of Mid Suffolk District Council, having served as vice chair last year. Last year's Chairman, Conservative Barry Humphreys, was elected vice chair. Both were elected by the chairman's casting vote, as the political situation is still deadlocked. There are 17 councillors on both sides, so the chairman's casting vote becomes crucial for decision-making. All cabinet and vice cabinet positions, bar the chair of Overview and Scrutiny, were filled by Conservatives, all with the chairman's casting vote being used. The Report also covered the fact that the £3.6 million refurbishment of the Regal Theatre in Stowmarket has been completed with the venue offering three screens, a new café and bar area, and improved parking and toilet facilities and that Our Parks' is running free fitness classes at venues across Suffolk, all venues are Covid secure and the website has more information. <https://ourparks.org.uk/borough/babergh-mid-suffolk-district-council>.

Meanwhile, the project to provide a new 136 space car park to serve Woolpit Health Centre as part of the development to the south of Old Stowmarket Road has been brought forward in response to the COVID pandemic. The detailed planning application was approved by Development Control Committee A on Thursday 3rd June. There will be temporary access to the new car park from the rear of the existing Health Centre car park, but once access is available through the new housing development the temporary access will revert to pedestrian and cycle access only. The funds for the project are being sought from the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Suffolk County Council

Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report confirming that, following the recent election, the Greens, Liberal Democrats and Independents have formed a political Group. The Green, Liberal Democrat & Independent (GLI) Group has 15 councillors overall and will take on the role of official opposition at Suffolk County Council. The Report dealt with The Queen's Green Canopy, a tree planting and preservation campaign commemorating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Partners including Suffolk County Council are working together to preserve and enhance existing woodland while increasing both canopy cover and access to green space. Tree Wardens will work with communities and parish councils to link up existing woodland with woodland walkways and hedgerows as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. This tree planting will create natural corridors for biodiversity and link up existing footpaths and bridleways.

Different organisations are invited to get involved and can find out more at www.suffolk-lieutenancy.org.uk/queens-green-canopy

New land at Blackbourne

The Clerk reported to the Meeting that he and the Chairman had recently met with Consulting Engineers BLI on site to discuss the way forward in remediating the damage caused and long term consequences of the incursion by Matthew Homes on to Council's land adjacent to their development site at White House Farm. A detailed viable alternative scheme using the existing ditch network has subsequently been worked-up by BLI and forwarded, via Council's solicitor, to the other side. Meanwhile all work on the offending swale has ceased. Work towards fencing and hedging the boundary of the 6 acres of land recently gifted to the village by Stan & Ian Turner, the original developers of the Blackbourne estate, is delayed pending the outcome of the further negotiations with the developer who have started their

106-house project on the adjacent site. The eventual use of the much-needed extra space, which offers the opportunity for re-shaping the formal and informal recreation greenspace on Blackbourne Meadow, will be the subject of advice to the Parish Council from the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association.

Elmswell Tavern

The monthly report from the Clerk included confirmation that Elmswell Community Enterprise (ECE) continues to make sound progress towards developing the Elmswell Tavern as a community pub. Their advice, following the process of advertising for Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified architects and the interviewing of short-listed candidates, had led to the Proposal to this meeting for the appointment of Messrs BCR Infinity Architects of Bury St Edmunds to undertake a conceptual design study to pre-application Planning stage. Meanwhile, a structural survey has confirmed that the core building is sound with no problems precluding the planned extensions and a 3D survey has produced measured plans and elevations to facilitate the architectural planning process. A social media presence promoting the scheme is almost ready to go live and the first formal initiative towards public awareness will be included with the July Elmswell Newsletter. The consultant who has been seconded to the project from the Plunkett Foundation continues to advise on the all-important Share Issue which will be launched in September. Promotional initiatives building up to the share offer will include meet-and-greet sessions at the Co-op and presentations to local community groups, to local businesses and to external interested parties. Discussion towards the tenure of the pub is suggesting that it might best be secured through a long lease from EPC which will thus present a tangible asset to underpin the Share Issue and yet retain community ownership in perpetuity regardless of the fortunes of the commercial venture.

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - June 2021

Wesley opening Jo Churchill MP had agreed to officiate at a formal opening of the village's new facility at Wesley but the much-moved latest date of 9th July has now been abandoned to an indeterminate future date to be determined as circumstances dictate. It is intended that the opening will include displays from some of the Blackbourne & Wesley user groups as they themselves begin to open up their community activities after lockdown. There will be entertainment and the chance to have first sight of the broad-brush concept proposals for the Elmswell Tavern next door.

Planning results

The Meeting noted the following results of Planning applications made to Mid Suffolk, the Planning authority:

DC/21/01785 Erection of single storey front extension at 5 Gardeners Walk
REFUSED

DC/21/01994 Discharge of Condition 4 (materials) ...Land to the East of Ashfield Road
APPROVED

DC/21/02514 Raise lower canopy 1no Spruce tree...2 Upper Crossway, Warren Lane
GRANTED

DC/2101936 Discharge of Condition 10 (Measures to improve sustainability) Land to the East of Ashfield Road
REFUSED

DC/20/04540 Creation of vehicular access...Dagwood Farm, Ashfield Road
GRANTED

Planning Applications

The Meeting considered the 4 applications forwarded for comment from MSDC. It was agreed to support the application ref. DC/21/02922 for the erection of a replacement hurdle fence at the Cow Shed, Ashfield road.

Objections were made to the other 3 applications as follows:

DC/21/02956

Application for Outline Planning permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered) – Erection of 44 dwellings (inc. 9 bungalows) and 15no affordable housing; open space; landscaping and associated infrastructure. Land East of Warren Lane and West of Cresmedow Way

Elmswell Parish Council urges rejection of this application which seeks to make an incursion into the countryside beyond the development boundary due to be set in the emerging Joint Local Plan by virtue of Preferred Option Site Allocation LAO63 which has permission ref 4909/16 for 38 dwellings. This is confirmed in the emerging Elmswell Neighbourhood Development Plan which, similarly, recognises the southern extremity of the current permitted site as representing the limit of development.

The proposed development-creep would make future extensions to the village's development envelope to the east the more difficult to resist as a case might be

made for infill to the south of Cresmedow Way, Prescott Drive and Mill Gardens to link in with the emerging estate south of Wetherden Road. The hammerhead shown on the indicative layout from the estate road along the eastern boundary would, clearly, facilitate this undesirable expansion.

Presented as a small increase in built area, this proposal represents 0.96ha of extra building land, an increase of 50% over the existing site. It seeks to provide homes ever-nearer to the constantly problematic environment of Lawn Farm Quarry and the emerging industrial estate at Lawn Farm Business Centre and, on these counts alone, should be resisted.

In reaching these conclusions, Councillors had reference to Local Plan policies SB1, H7, H17 to Core Strategy Policy CS2 and NPPF paragraphs 15.

DC/21/03296

Construction of an area of hardstanding for the stationing of lorries. Erection of a single-storey modular building, external lighting and 2m high security fence. Lawn Farm Business Centre, Woolpit

Elmswell Parish Council urges rejection of this application which seeks to impose the infrastructure stress of a further 25 – 30 HGV units together with the ancillary traffic movements of LGV, staff and service vehicles which will inevitably use Warren Lane, a single-track road without passing places, to access A14 through Elmswell. It would impose further light pollution on residents of Elmswell as experienced with the existing recent developments at this site and the lack of any concession to smart, movement-reactive lighting clearly suggests that these problems will recur.

DC/21/02390

Installation of outdoor swimming pool, erection of pool house and garden shed (retention of) Luke's View, St John's Close

Elmswell Parish Council urges a holding objection on this proposal pending a full and proper investigation by officers regarding the following matters of concern which are not addressed in the application documentation:

1 *Of principal concern is the protection of the significant pine tree, subject to TPO, as well as other specimens and the protected hedge adjacent which qualifies as a S.41 habitat. The unauthorised works may well have caused root damage which should, if possible, be mitigated and any further works must be strictly conditioned to prevent further harm. There is no plan correlating the TPO specimens with the proposed works and such a plan, including root protection areas, should be presented prior to commencement of excavation so that protective measures can be scheduled and required.*

2 *No provision is shown on the plans as presented regarding backwash of chlorinated water or the method for draining the pool. Both should be prevented from entering the natural water courses and piped directly into the foul sewer system.*

3 *The Application should be required to include the construction of the fence which now stands against the hawthorn hedge on the northern boundary.*

4 *Consideration of this application should have reference to the March 2018 MHE Consulting Ecological Survey Report and regard paid to the recommendations therein to include:*

- the potential adverse effect on nearby designated sites, namely Lukeswood;*
- the conservation of overall landscape character;*
- that regard be paid to protected species / groups which may be using the site and/or Lukeswood adjacent;*
- the potential detrimental effect on wildlife, particularly bats, of inappropriate external lighting.*

Elmswell School expansion

The Meeting discussed the proposal from Suffolk County Council for an increase in the size of Elmswell School on its existing site at Oxe Close to accommodate the demand for places generated by considerable recent and planned development in the village. The number of places would increase from 315 to 420 by the provision of 3 extra classrooms and extra parking. This would not be enough to allow spaces for all of the projected housing expansion and a new school at Woolpit is also proposed with enough spaces to take the overflow from Elmswell requiring the children to travel by bus or car.

The formal response reads: There is unanimous opposition to this plan which is reflected in the views of the community at large.

The site was, from its inception in the move from the much larger School Road facilities, very tight when housing years 1 – 4. The subsequent imposition of the extra 2 year groups has worsened the situation, particularly having regard to the physical space required if 11 year-olds are to be properly accommodated, both indoors and outdoors. There is an overcrowding problem which is largely a consequence of the restrictions of the site, particularly with regard to outdoor space, but also to the extent that the toilet facilities are inadequate and that there is a requirement for staggered assemblies and no opportunity for the



school to meet as one community. The reduction in outdoor informal and formal play space is particularly concerning given the wider initiatives to encourage physical activity in our children. To suggest 3 additional classrooms, car parking and ancillary works is to seek to create an even more cramped result that is most undesirable and potentially unworkable.

Please note that input from Councillors includes from long-served teachers with direct experience of having taught at the school and at a senior Local Authority Education Management level.

There is a current and urgent need for a more holistic approach to the primary school provision in Elmswell. This proposal runs parallel to similar plans at Woolpit and in tandem with the suggestion of another school to be built in Woolpit to which Elmswell children would travel over the A14 every day. Meanwhile, a submission to the emerging BMSDC JLP suggest a new site for up to 630 places in Elmswell and Elmswell Parish Council has proposals which could realistically offer another site on which a 630 entry school could be properly sited with adequate outside facilities.

We are seeking an early meeting with your colleagues in Schools Planning Management towards formalising these possibilities in the hope of a stay in the make-do-and-mend approaches currently proposed.

Meanwhile, please register Elmswell Parish Council's considered and wholehearted objection to this Proposal.

Parish Clerk's office The Meeting agreed that Messrs HR Services Partnership be asked to conduct a review of the roles and responsibilities of the Clerk and of the Assistant Clerk against the National Framework Agreement to determine the appropriate scale points for both positions on the National Joint Council Scale. This addresses concerns in the matter of succession planning given the fastchanging profile of the responsibilities rightly and properly delegated to the Clerk's office as a very active council pursues new initiatives and handles the increasing pressures on existing systems as the number of residents rises inexorably. Councillors noted that the recent expansion of the office space has proved to be of real benefit and has allowed for the service offered to remain safely available without hindrance during

the pandemic constraints. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the Council must future-proof towards the inevitable need for an eventual change so that the posts involved are properly defined and attract suitably qualified and motivated individuals. It was agreed that Elmswell is now of a size where the last residual trace of the Clerk's post being filled by a willing volunteer – even in part – must be replaced by a thoroughly professional appointment given that the monthly agendas regularly identify issues and initiatives which are at the top end of what might be expected of a Smaller Local Authority and that the relentless pressures of development suggest that this is inevitable and must be managed if the community is to be properly served.

Next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 19th July at 7.30pm in The Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council Committee meetings and the agendas will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW

Every so often, the Government looks at the way the country is split into parliamentary constituencies and tries to balance the number of voters in each constituency to present an even result across the country.

The latest proposals present us with the possibility of belonging to North Suffolk. This poses various, possibly contentious, issues. There is no town of any size with only Bungay and Halesworth as larger settlements well over in the east. Without Bury or Stowmarket we would be part of a very rural grouping and separated from those two towns which have historically provided much of our larger infrastructure links such as a hospital and a further education college.

There are many other questions posed by the proposals and we are invited to have our say on the interactive website which tells us that:

- The number of constituencies in the Eastern region will increase from 58 to 61
- By law, every constituency we propose must contain between 69,724 and 77,062 Parliamentary electors (as at 2 March 2020)

Access the site by searching

Boundary Commission Review – have your say



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.

July 19th Sept 20th Oct 18th Nov 15th Dec 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

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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.

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Baby & Toddler Group	Donna Hughes	elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
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Oil buying Group		elmswelloil@gmail.com	07813829008
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
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Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
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Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Marion Abbott	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
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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	c/o Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
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

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What's On in Elmswell ?



Both Blackbourne and Wesley will become available to the many user 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.

July 2021

- 7 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I @ Wesley Centre 2pm. Making the best of a Supermarket Bunch. Stephanie Lester.
- 13 Social evening to welcome members old and new. Elmswell Evening WI Meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Wesley.
- 28 ELF AGM to be held at the Library commencing 5:30pm. Meet local author Francesca Catlow. All welcome

August 2021

- 4 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I @ Wesley Centre 2pm. Edith Cavell - A British Heroine - Richard and Jill Mann
- 10 Charles Garland from Dad's Army. Elmswell Evening WI Meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Wesley.

September 2021

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I @ Wesley Centre 2pm. Never Judge a Book by it's Cover. Michael Holton - Booksurgeon. Followed by our AGM

- 6 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Armchair Walk of Ipswich Waterfront with an Ipswich Tourist Guide 7.45pm
- 9 Elmswell History Group Speaker to be confirmed
- 14 Sian Fox, It shouldn't happen to a home economist. Elmswell Evening WI Meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Wesley.
- 21 Elmswell Garden Club, Wesley Centre 7.30pm Dr Ian Bedford 'The trouble with wasps'

October 2021

- 4 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Patchwork with Janet Brown 7.45pm
- 6 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I @ Wesley Centre 2pm. The Art of Stained Glass - Michele Russell
- 12 Margaret Blanchard on her life as a film extra. Elmswell Evening WI Meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Wesley.
- 19 Elmswell Garden Club - Wesley Centre 7.30pm- Pat Hodgkins NT 'Constable the Man an his Landscapes

November 2021

- 1 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Lady Alice de Bryene with Pip Wright 7.45pm
- 3 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I @ Wesley Centre 2pm. Create a Seasonal Book Mark with Jayne. All materials supplied Materials provided - Jane Knights
- 9 Vanessa Hale from Wiltshire Farm Foods. Elmswell Evening WI Meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Wesley
- 16 Elmswell Garden Club - Wesley Centre 7.30pm AGM followed by Club Event
- 29 Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Nosh and Natter - Entertainment by John Evans and friends - men welcome as well 7.45pm

December 2021

- 1 Elmswell Exchange Afternoon W.I @ Wesley Centre 2pm. Special Christmas Celebrations To make up for the dreadful year of 2020/21 (Wear something sparkly)
- 14 Christmas party. Elmswell Evening WI Meeting starts at 7.30pm at The Wesley

STOP PRESS

Back in action at both Blackbourne & Wesley and hoping to stay that way, we have:

FITNESS - Sarah Evans' classes include stretch-and-flex, spin, boxercise, legs bums & tums, bodyblast....throughout the week and at weekends contact sarahjane.fitness@outlook.com

KARATE with Lewis - Tuesday 4.30 – 5.45 / Friday 5.00 – 7.00 info@greatheadma.com

JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE – Monday & Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30 gary@chapeldevelopments.co.uk tel. 07711 680262

BABY & TODDLER GROUP - Monday mornings elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com

BOWLS – ann.richards47@gmail.com

GUIDES – Monday evenings 5.00 – 8.30 gem_2910@hotmail.co.uk

FOOTBALL – shaun.pratt@btinternet.com 07494 864231

RAINBOWS – elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com

JUNIOR FOOTBALL – smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591

BEAVERS /SCOUTS – Wednesday 5.45 – 9.15 ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk

OVER 55'S – every other Thursday 6.30 – 10.30 Diann Armstrong tel. 241002

CIRCLE DANCING - Thursdays 1.45 – 3.15 jenlerner@gmail.com

TREFOIL GUILD - 1ST Tuesday monthly lesley.grout@btinternet.com

MARDLE QUILTERS – last Friday monthly carpajak@aol.com

MOO MUSIC – Fridays 12.45 – 3.15 bury@moo-music.co.uk

If we've missed you out, do let us know...all enquiries to Ann at the Council Office Tel. 244134 Email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk



The chapel at Wesley

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: July 27th, August 24th, September 21st, October 26th, November 23rd.

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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