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dropping in'



# The Elmswell Newsletter



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

**JULY 2022**

**On line at [elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://elmswell.suffolk.cloud)**

## *Guest of honour brings her own marmalade sandwiches*



*... see page 15*

***folk at  
Wesley***

*Hosted by Bob and Paddy*

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**Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate. If you wish to comment, please do so via the office or by email at; [eea.elmswell.org.uk](mailto:eea.elmswell.org.uk) We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.**

**Our Parish Council doesn't have a Tourism Committee. There is, furthermore, no need for a proposal in our emerging Neighbourhood Plan to limit holiday home ownership or Airbnb lettings in the village. The beach at Blackbourne was but a brief opportunity for us to feature as a holiday destination. We never figures in the ubiquitous, 'Top Fifty Must Visit Holiday Hotspot', features in the papers. We leave it to Aldeburgh where visitors can enjoy a 45-minute wait in the queue for fish and chips which come a poor second in quality to those from the excellent Elmswell chippie, or to Southwold where a pint in an overcrowded perspiration-packed pub costs 30% more than in our very own (literally) Elmswell Tavern.**

**No problem, then, with our community being, 'hollowed out' as has happened to our desirable neighbours on the coast. We take little interest in Mr Gove's Levelling Up proposals for a 90-day limit on renting out second homes. Neither are we embroiled in the debate as to whether the tourists are killing off the community or keeping it alive.**

Our challenges are no less real, but rather different. We have plenty of houses. We have almost nine hundred more than were here a few years ago. Houses built where the Bacon Factory stood. Houses where Anderson's Engineering, Thurlow Nunn and OC Jewers once operated. Houses on open fields that once grew the wheat which recent events have confirmed to be quite a good thing to be producing so close to home.

The social change thus created is double-edged. Between them, the local businesses which made way for the dwellings employed some 700 people. Many walked or cycled to work. Our expanded population now travels out of the village for work and often, because of old allegiances, for leisure. There was talk in the early days of this gradual re-balancing of who we are and how we live that Elmswell would become a dormitory town. Out in the morning to work, back in the evening to sleep. Result, we feared, a lifeless, characterless loose rag-bag of housing estates lacking vitality, personality or community. But this has not materialised. Many recent newcomers have taken advantage of the opportunities on offer for interaction and for joining-in. Those charged with providing somewhere to join in and something to join into have been encouraged to continue innovating. Working to ensure that Blackbourne is bigger and better than ever. Working to create Wesley with its own social spin-offs providing a friendly focus for getting together both formally and informally. Working so that the social opportunities which a local pub can uniquely offer are safeguarded by the community ownership of the Elmswell Tavern.

There is, as a consequence, a reassuringly high degree of satisfaction with our village as generally voiced by residents. The problems which make for a less positive view are not ours alone. The health facilities are in the next village. The pedestrian / cycle path to that next village remains a rather hazy possibility. Our school is shoe-horned on to a very small site with no chance of expansion and the possibility that our children will be bussed to other villages every day. The roads can, at times, barely cope and, with the chance of a relief road beyond all reasonably assessed possibility, we await the anticipated increase in rail freight from Felixstowe with some trepidation as we twiddle thumbs (but with engines switched off) at the crossing gates.

The same drive that has encouraged our community to stay ahead of the game, rather than give in to the deadening possibility of very fast considerable growth, remains. The feasibility of another school site in the village is being actively pursued. The Community path to Woolpit is now officially a project and is being driven forward as a live issue. SCC Highways are engaged in discussions regarding safety on our village roads, our local representatives being tenaciously bent on improving safety and convenience within the very real constraints of our crowded ancient street pattern. We remain fortunate in having folk willing to devote time and energy to fighting our corner.

That 'fighting' is an appropriate metaphor is proved when we look further into one of the several community initiatives currently under way. When the village bought the Greene King site it was with the clearly stated intention to provide housing for the

community. 'Affordable homes,' to replace the eight pattern-book dwellings for which planning permission was already granted. Elmswell Community Land Trust is thus engaged in discussions with registered social housing providers towards a partnership which can attract Government funding towards building houses designed to suit local need rather than a developer's bottom line and which will be owned and controlled by the community in perpetuity. The fight is needed because of Government hints that the 'Right To Buy' legislation which has so disastrously blighted the local authority council housing sector, might be extended to housing associations. Thus, bodies of charitable intent, such as Elmswell's Community Land Trust, may be required in law to offer their housing stock at a generous discount to current residents. Human nature being what it is, once the time limit required to earn a discount is passed, many of the hard-won 'social housing' units will be sold off, often to landlords who will charge rents at an unregulated market rate. The market rate, for myriad reasons related to the economics of land value and the effective stranglehold which the mainstream housing developers maintain, is an unreasonable charge on the income of young people and families.

The community gave its permission for the purchase of the land for sustainable community dwellings at not-for-profit rent. The necessarily painstaking process of realising those ideals grinds on. It must take full account of the threat to the determined aim of village homes which must stay under local control in perpetuity.



## ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Art comes in many forms, painting and drawing, music, dance, acting, mime and many others. Within each of these categories there are numerous sub-divisions all under the generic heading of art. What is considered art in some areas may not be considered so in others. Often this is simply down to tradition and location. Take the African continent as a whole and consider traditional indigenous African art, we find that this form of art is not spread through the whole of Africa. The area including the Sahara and all the territory northwards to the Mediterranean is almost entirely made up of Berber and Islamic traditions. In a similar way, Ethiopia can be eliminated from the area because art there is based on Christian beliefs. So African art is found widespread throughout sub-Saharan Africa. In the Western world, African art is known and recognised as a wood based art. This is mainly due to the lack of paper. There are masks, headgear, shields and human form sculptures all displaying differences according to the tribal areas, traditions and the purpose for which the objects were to be used. The big problem for historians and researchers is that wood does not keep for long and maybe lasts no more than a couple of centuries. They rely on pottery pieces, ceramics and metals on which to base their findings and try to discover the origins of African art. Wood, of course is widespread throughout the continent.

Nowadays with the end of the slave trade and the colonial period, the area has opened up to tourism and so many pieces are made to satisfy the needs of the tourist.

Each tribal area has its own gods and traditions, so designs therefore vary from region to region, but still come under the heading of African traditional art. With the "Scramble for Africa" the white man ripped the place apart and imposed their own borders based on territory won. However, the traditional art was not destroyed and indeed thrives to this day.

With the slave trade, African art moved across the Atlantic to the American south and the northern parts of South America, as well as Europe and together with the diaspora, this form of art is known and appreciated way beyond the bounds of Africa. This art was, certainly in the early days, thought to be primitive, but attitudes have changed because of the acceptance by such notables as Picasso, Gauguin, Matisse, and Modigliani, to name but a few, who all became inspired by the vibrancy, colour strengths and forms found in African art. Abstract forms are used in the area's art and as we all know Picasso was a great champion of abstract work.

Modern artists from Africa are not as well known as perhaps they should be but are making headway and several now who do make it to the top are able to command good prices in the West.



I cannot say, in all honesty, that any of our members paint in an African style but some do use strong and bold colours. The watercolour by Annette Finter of the quayside houses in Burano, a small island in the middle of the Venice lagoon, certainly has some bright and cheerful colours. The drawing with the light colour wash of the teasels was created by Eileen Lee.

**John Welford - 01359 240166**

**It is not what you  
are called, but  
what you answer to.**

**UGANDAN PROVERB**

A date to put in your diary: September 10th and 11th which are the days we shall be holding our latest show and sale at the Wesley. Free entry.



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## ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON WI

**In June we gathered together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.** A big occasion for us. Some of us remember the death of King George VI and the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. We had a day's holiday from school and were able to watch this for the first time ever on television, most of us on a neighbour's or friends set. Very small black and white grainy screens and very small sets. To us it was miraculous and such a special day. Our members had arrived at this meeting dressed in Jubilee style and it looked very colourful.

**Richard and Jill Mann were our guests and gave a presentation about Edith Cavell an East Anglian Heroine.** Most people know about her nursing work during the First World War and her eventual execution at the hands of the Germans. But we learned about Edith as a young woman,

her family and upbringing in Norfolk and how she finished in Belgium working in a hospital training nurses. An interesting and well illustrated talk.

We then enjoyed cakes with our tea before tackling the business matters. The competition was "A Queen Elizabeth II souvenir". This was won by Yvonne King, second was Margaret Hitchins and third was Lesley Clarke. Well done to them.

**Next month we are going to learn "How to Look Good in a Bin Bag".** That should be entertaining. Not quite sure what this entails but we will soon find out. Edith Cavell

If you have any queries about our group please get in touch with Maureen on 241033, Mary on 245022 or Carol on 242884.

*Maureen Davis*



**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN



*Jubilee at the Palace – Pat and her husband are in the 143rd row back, second from left.*



## ELMSWELL WI

At our June meeting we were given a very enlightening and unexpected talk by one of our members due to our speaker being held up in traffic in Essex and was unable to make the meeting.

Pat Kent told us of her experiences at the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in London. Pat and her husband saw it all first hand, due to arriving early and choosing a spot in The Mall to have their picnic next to some very friendly Germans. She said every nationality, colour and creed seemed to be there, all enjoying themselves together which she said was great to see. They saw the 'Tree of Trees' which consisted of many small trees, one of which will be sent to every county in Britain, to be planted in memory of the Jubilee.

In the evening they were treated to the wonderful concert and managed to get a bus back to their hotel on the South Bank.

Sunday was Pageant day and the costumes and dancers were amazing, also the buses, one for every decade of the Queen's reign.

Pat was thrilled to see Ed Sheeran as he is a 'good old Suffolk boy'. Finally the Queen appeared on the balcony with other members of the royal family and Pat and her husband staggered back up The Mall, through Admiralty Arch to find a bus to their hotel, only to find all the roads closed so they had to walk and got to their hotel at 1 o'clock in the morning! They were shattered but she said it was well worth it and it was something they would never forget. The organisation was fantastic and the Police and security staff were so friendly. They had attended the Golden and Diamond Jubilees but this one trumped them all! We really felt that we had been there with them and we are very grateful to Pat for stepping in at such short notice.

After refreshments and much chatting Terry gave a report on the NFWI Annual Meeting which she attended in Liverpool. She said she really enjoyed it and would recommend members to attend in future years.

We then held our usual raffle and gave out plants to those members who have a birthday in June.

At our next meeting on 12th July we will be having a fish and chip supper in the Tavern garden, weather permitting. Inside if wet. New members and visitors are always welcome.

**Margaret 01359 408452**

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN



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## ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

The club is one of the most active groups in the village – and it shows.

They installed and have maintained for many years the award-winning floral displays on our station platforms and run a bi-annual Open Gardens event.

Ten years ago, to mark the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee the Open Gardens offered 17 immaculate examples of the Club members’ skills and experience to a large number of visitors from the village and beyond whose donations allowed a gift of £300.00 to be made to local good causes – and this on top of a stunning display in St John’s as part of their flower festival.

**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](mailto:elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com) and is a good way to to ask any questions you might have.**



## ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

Once again it is time to keep you all updated with what is going on at the Over 55's Club. Firstly I must apologise for the human error in last month's newsletter.

The picture of "Fever Pitch" wasn't taken at the recent meeting it was dated 21st October 2021 when we celebrated Ruth Francis 90th birthday so sorry to Betty for the error hope it did not embarrass you.

Ruth was not at the meeting on May 19th but Fever Pitch put on a splendid evening. As our June 2nd meeting fell on the start of the 70th jubilee celebrations the committee decided to decorate the Chamberlyne Hall when many flags bunting and pictures adorned the walls and were strung across

the hall. The tables were also done in red white and blue with a centre decoration of silk flowers and serviettes to match.

I would like to thank the committee for their time creating such a splendid theme for her majesty's celebrations also special thanks to Barry Hazel and Charlotte for preparing a 1952 themed supper based on Spam Paste and Cheese sandwiches Homemade buttered rusks Rock cakes Jam tarts and Swiss roll all served on a union plate.

Bob Whiting came to entertain us for the evening, he had prepared a special programme to celebrate the "Platinum Jubilee" which gave everybody a chance to join in with music and songs

All in all; a brilliant evening.

On Thursday June 16th we took to the road (first time for 3 years) with a trip to the 12 Lost Churches at Dunwich for a splendid lunch, this was followed by the short ride to Aldeburgh to have a wander around the shops get an ice cream or just relax on the sea front.

Our next meeting isn't until July 7th when the committee will be preparing a Strawberry supper.

**Diann (241002)**





## ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP



June saw The Queen's Platinum Jubilee as well as our Annual General Meeting when a new Chairman was appointed and, thanks to everyone who volunteered their services, a viable committee formed, so we continue for another year – hoorah!

This was followed by Jacquie Norman's talk and demonstration of Tudor Costume, showing us a fabulous array of colourful costumes, which gave us a practical introduction to clothing worn in the first half of the Tudor period. She showed ladies' smocks, petticoats and kirtles, and men's jerkins, doublets and hose, all of which were impressively hand-made by herself. A lady dressing for Court could have five or six layers of clothing which would take up to two **hours** to put on! No buttons or zips in those days, everything was pinned or laced up. A fascinating insight into those times and a fitting finale to our current season; "best talk this year" was said by some, so Jacquie has been re-booked into a future programme for her Part 2 of Tudor Costumes.

No organized main **Summer Outing** for us this year, although a few of us visited Woolpit Museum and Church on 29th June, and we're hoping to arrange one or two other such "mini" outings. Meanwhile, without having to traipse around London this summer, why not take the train (or park-and-ride bus) into Cambridge, for a stroll round that fascinating town to get a crash course in English architecture, from Saxon times to today. Few places in Britain have such a concentration of architectural jewels as Cambridge, and not just the world-famous

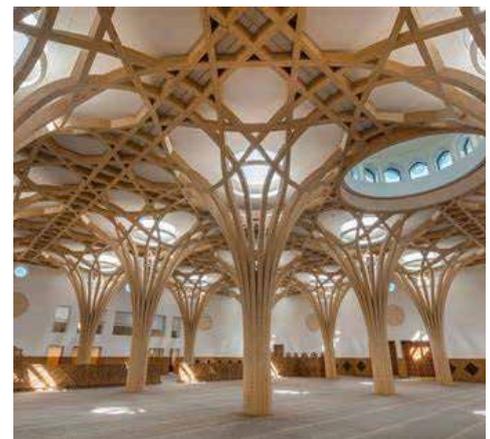


King's College chapel built for King Henry VI in the 15-16th century, featuring the **world's** largest fan-vaulted ceiling. Henry was only 19 when he laid the first stone of the chapel in 1441 when this marsh town was still a port so, to make way for his college, Henry exercised a form of compulsory purchase in the centre of medieval Cambridge, levelling houses, shops, lanes and wharves, and even a church between the river and the high street (now King's Parade), taking three years to purchase and clear the land. From the 17th century onwards, Cambridge offers a roll call of our greatest architects, just a few examples of which would be the 1,000-year old Saxon tower of St Benet's church, the early 12th century's Round Church (one of only five in England) of the Holy Sepulchre,

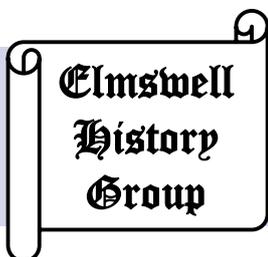
and the Old Schools, now the university's administrative centre behind King's Chapel,



which has a 1440 gatehouse, the precursor of three great Tudor ones in the university at the colleges of St John's, Trinity and Christ's. Christopher Wren's first finished building was the chapel at Pembroke, but Trinity's sublime 17th century library, named after Wren (1632-1723), is built of Ketton stone and features Grinling Gibbon's impressive woodwork. The early 18th century Senate House and University Library were both built by James Gibbs, and King's College also contains work of the 1820s by William Wilkins, architect of London's National Gallery. New Court at John's College is a magnificent early gothic revival extravaganza that presents the most marvellous aspect from the river, with its 1827 "wedding cake" lantern. Giles Gilbert Scott's great University Library of 1931-34 is Cambridge's finest art-deco building and, of course, there is the impressive Cambridge Central Mosque (completed in 2019), inspired by both Islamic and English religious architectural traditions – tel: 01223-654020 to book a tour. So, rail strikes permitting, enjoy your Cambridge day out over the summer months.



Our **2022-23 Programme of Talks** starts on **8th September**. Full details are now on our website as well as in the "What's On" section at the back of this newsletter, and we look forward to welcoming many of you back then.



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

# CLUBS & SOCIETIES



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*Diann (241002)*

## ELMSWELL BABY AND TODDLER GROUP NEWS AND UPDATES

### Elmswell Baby and Toddler Group

Elmswell Baby and Toddler Group meet weekly on a Monday between 10am - 11:30am at the Blackbourne.

We have a great variety of toys, puzzles, games, a weekly craft, as well as a designated snack table and baby corner.

Once a month we also like to get creative with some messy play.

We offer a warm welcome, biscuits and a hot cuppa- which you can usually still enjoy while it's hot while your child plays.

Parents, grandparents, guardians are all welcome to bring the children along, and it is just £2 a session for one adult and one child to attend.

We don't carry cash at group, therefore all our booking options and prices are on our private group Facebook page "Elmswell Baby and Toddler Group" alongside the link to book.

We would like to thank all those who attended the jubilee event at the Blackbourne, and although the weather was against us, we still enjoyed seeing so many of you coming along to use the bouncy castles, play on the beach and watch the magic show.

We have a busy summer coming up, and it would be great to see you come along to enjoy the fun.

July 25th- Sports day

August 1st- lukeswood session

August 8th- summer soft play party 10am-2pm- pre booking will be essential

August 15th- usual session

August 22nd- trip to Needham Lake

August 29th- Bank Holiday- no session this week but back to normal from 5th September.

Our popular Nearly New Sale also returns on the 17th September so pop the date on your calendars!



### Can you help us?

As a volunteer group, many of us are running the sessions whilst also looking after our own children.

Therefore, we would happily welcome anyone who could spare some time to help us out, whether it be to help set up and pack away, or help with the teas and coffees as often as you're able. It really would be much appreciated.

If you're able to give us a hand, or would like more information about the group, please email [elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com)

The beach at Blackbourne for the Jubilee picnic required 30 tonnes of sand. This was provided by Aggmax from Lawn Farm Quarry and spread for us by Duncan of Bright Acres Tool Hire. Many thanks to both companies for helping towards a very successful event.



# THE ELMSWELL ARCHIVE



Some of the best and most accessible archive material is in the 30 years of Newsletters held on file in the Village Archive and at the Records Office in Bury.

The 2012 event coincided with the grand opening of the new Jubilee Hall at Elmswell and the granting of a Community Excellence award to Elmswell from Community Action Suffolk.



'Will Gibson from Community Action Suffolk presents the Community Award to Peter Dow



The cover of the June 2012 edition showed some of our Guides with one of the contributions to the Grand Village Exhibition which showcased many of our village organisations and businesses in the glorious new community space.



July 2012 promised more pictures of the celebrations – in this case the History group taking us back in time to a 1950's Coronation Year picnic complete with vintage car and headgear



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## ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,  
It's Summer Reading Challenge time. The Summer Reading Challenge starts on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July. We will have volunteers every day to sign children up to it. To find out when to sign up there will be a rota in the window from Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July.

The Summer Reading Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency, is delivered in partnership with public libraries and funded by Arts Council England. The Challenge encourages children aged up to 11 to enjoy the benefits of reading for pleasure over the summer holidays. Children up to 6 books over the summer holiday and talk to our volunteers about the most recent book they read. To make it last the summer holiday children can tell the volunteer about up to 2 books each week.

The Greek Wine, Food and Book Signing by local author Francesca Catlow and local wine expert Bob Stopp is at 7.30pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July. Tickets are £10 and available from the library. Food and drink included in the ticket price. Francesca's last book signing at the library was popular and the wine evenings are always enjoyed.

Francesca Catlow will also be involved

in the writing competitions that we are running over the summer holidays. For children aged 6 and under there is a design a bookmark competition, for 7 – 11 year olds the competition is write 300 – 600 words ideally on a character from a book read as part of the reading challenge and for 12 – 17 year olds 500 – 800 words about a character from a library book you have read.

This month's display is inspired by the reading challenge's partnership with the Science Museum. There will be a range of books based loosely on the theme of science including ones like the popular Miss Benson's Beetle by Rachel Joyce.

The exhibition up throughout July is by Fall from Grace. It includes a few Pride themed pictures for June and several black and white artworks of animals that are threatened or endangered in the wild. There is more information about the artist and artwork next to the self service machine in the library. Framed prints are for sale and we can take orders for unframed prints to be collected from the library. 15% of everything sold will go to Suffolk libraries.

See you in the library soon,

*Miles*

## What's on at Elmswell Library?

### Story Time

1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday

### The Keep in Touch Community Café

10.30am on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at the Wesley Café (every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)

### Knit and Natter

2pm – 3pm Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June (every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month)

### Adult Reading Practice

Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please book in advance.

### Sunday Crafts

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### Lego Club

Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

### Greek wine food and book signing

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Monday: Closed  
 Tuesday: 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm  
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## SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES JUNE 2022 REPORT

The SIDs were monitored on 9th June 2022.

At Church Hill the volume of traffic remains consistent at an AADT figure of 3800.

Adherence to the speed limit is improving, with an average speed down to 29.4 mph and the percentage of drivers exceeding the speed limit is now 40.1%

At Ashfield Road the traffic volume has remained consistent at an AADT figure of 1440.

The average speed is 30.2 mph and the percentage of drivers exceeding the speed limit is now 55%.

At Wetherden Road the volume of traffic remains consistent at an AADT figure of 2230.

The average speed is 29.7 mph and percentage of drivers exceeding the limit is 48%.

Whilst driving habits are definitely improving, there is still work to do. There are still drivers travelling at unacceptable speeds within the village, at inappropriate locations and times.

The other issue affecting the roads in our village is selfish and, sometimes, illegal parking. This seems to occur particularly at nursery and primary school delivery at collections times. The Highway Code is flagrantly disregarded and Cook's Road becomes a virtually single track road from the Bennet Avenue junction to the New Road junction. It is only a matter of time before someone forced to travel on the wrong side of the road has a head on collision with someone turning into Cooks Road.

A large proportion of these students live in the village, so it begs the question, why can't they walk. Better for them, better for the planet.

Excess or inappropriate speed is a major cause of road traffic collisions. Exceeding the speed limit, or driving too fast for the conditions on the road, contributes to more than 720 deaths and 4,550 injuries in the UK every year.

Speeding traffic can also make our communities noisier and more polluted, discouraging walking and cycling.

**There is a lot of useful information on  
[www.brake.org.uk](http://www.brake.org.uk).**

# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES



## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!

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**Do you have a few spares hours each week?**

## We haven't all got cars... but we all need to get about

Sometimes it's important or urgent – to get down to Woolpit Health Centre or into Bury Hospital for an appointment. Neighbours aren't always free to help, buses don't always suit appointment times and taxis can be very expensive.

What we need is a pool of volunteers who can help – a number of people happy to be available when asked if it is convenient.

This takes some organising.

We asked the professionals – Communities Together.

They have got it sorted...they take requests for a lift and find one of their volunteers who can help.

What they need is volunteers.

**If you think you could help, please get in touch.**

**We are looking for friendly & reliable volunteers to join our dedicated driving team.**

**If this sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you!**

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## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Wishing you every blessing from St John the Divine, your local parish church :)

June started with a rather damp Pentecost/Jubilee celebration. After a lovely all age service in the morning, we headed down to join in the celebrations at the Blackbourne, where we held a short Songs of Praise service. It was lovely to see children enjoying the "beach" despite the weather.

June also saw a welcome return to Sunday School in the church during the main services. The 9:30am Sunday School on Zoom continued, but we also ran it in-person at 10:30am - it was so lovely for some of our children to regather in the church. Sunday School is now taking a summer break, but we are hoping to resume in-church Sunday School during the main service in September.

It was also great to enjoy our annual barbecue on 26 June, after a 2 year break due to covid. A superb spread was laid on. Such events are great way to get to know each other better, but I have fallen out with the bathroom scales since then.

You are very welcome to join us at St John's. At the moment we are meeting in church every Sunday at 10:30am, with the service livestreamed on Facebook and available on YouTube shortly after midday. If you have never been along to St John's and are feeling a bit nervous, remember that everyone had a first day! Please don't feel apprehensive - there's no need to prepare anything before you come and you will find all dress styles amongst us. Please just come as you are! Our services include a mixture of contemporary and traditional music

and worship, so there is something for everyone.

There is an All Age service at 10:30am on the first Sunday of each month. This is a family friendly service with hymns and songs led by a music group. It also includes prayers, readings and a child-friendly talk and lasts about 45 minutes. Services on the second and fourth Sundays in the month include the Lord's Supper (also known as Holy Communion). Whichever service you may wish to try, you can be sure of a warm welcome. Tea and coffee are available after the service with plenty of time to chat and meet others.

If you wish to find out more about the Christian faith first, or want more information on having your child christened, or maybe you wish to get married at St John's, please do get in touch with the rector (details below).

### Upcoming Dates:

- Sun 3 July 9:00am**  
Lord's Supper (spoken service)
- Sun 3 July 10:30am**  
All Age Service
- Sun 10 July 10:30am**  
Worship with Lord's Supper
- Sun 17 July 10:30am**  
Sunday Worship
- Sun 24 July 10:30am**  
Worship with Lord's Supper
- Sun 31 July 10:30am**  
Sunday Worship
- Sun 7 August 9:00am**  
Lord's Supper (spoken service)
- Sun 7 August 10:30am**  
All Age Service with baptism

### Every Saturday:

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

On 3, 24, 31 July and 7 August, we hope to live stream the 10:30am services on our Facebook page (also available on our main web site later that day). Please note that there will be no livestream on 10 and 17 July.

Rector: Peter Goodridge

Email: [elmswellrector@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellrector@gmail.com)

Tel: 01359 240512

Web site: [www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk](http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell)

YouTube: accessed via our website home page

## 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 special occasion. 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".

All bookings and payments to :-

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

Your support is very much appreciated.

Thank You.



**JUNE 2022 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED**

11 remembering with love, a dear husband and father, Dennis Atkins, on his Birthday.

**JULY 2022 SPONSORSHIPS**

- 2 in memory of Betty Peachey.
- 15 in loving memory of Ivy Millicent Elliston.
- 16 in loving memory of a beloved husband, Captain Richard Montgomery.
- 17 in loving memory of our beautiful daughter, Margaret Cowland.
- 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.
- 24 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire- Fighters who served their village and community so well.

**CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET**

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MASS TIMES:  
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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**

At the recent Platinum Jubilee Celebration’s Beach Party, a short service of thanksgiving was held by Christians together in Elmswell which is an alliance made up of members of the Parish Church and the Baptist Church. The service gave thanks for the long reign of the Queen and at the same time celebrated Pentecost which was when the disciples were blessed with the holy spirit and began the Christian Church’s mission to the world, so effectively it is the birthday of the Christian Church.

Since then many styles of worship have developed Roman Catholic, Church of England, Greek Orthodox, Methodist, Baptist, and many more forms of free churches throughout the world in fact Christianity, is the most diverse religion in the world today. All of the various churches may have differing styles of worship

but they all worship the same Jesus Christ, if you feel that you would like to find out more about being a Christian contact us or the Rector at St Johns.

Our Ladies Friendship Group will not be meeting in July and August as they are enjoying their summer break, they restart their meetings on the 5th September with day out at the “Hut” on the seafront at Felixstowe with a Fish & Chip lunch husbands are welcome to join the ladies. Ladies please contact Margaret on 01359241541 to let her know that you are coming as she will need the numbers for ordering the fish and chips.

Food and Friends Lunch occurs on 14th July at 12 noon there will be no lunch in August but normal service will resume on Thursday 8th September so if you haven’t been before or haven’t been for a few months and would like to join us for a meal and chat contact Jackie on 01359 245918 to let us know you are coming.

I must remind everybody that our Ladies Group and the Food and friends Lunches are open to all and not just attendees at our Sunday Services

**Our services for July will be led by:-**  
 Sunday 3rd July Mike Forrester  
 Sunday 10th July Martin Lancaster  
 Sunday 17th July Eddie Kerridge  
 Sunday 24th July Rev Rodney Sawtell  
 Sunday 31st July Rev Norman Tharby  
**For more information about us checkout our website [www.elmswellbaptists.org.uk](http://www.elmswellbaptists.org.uk) or ring Tony on 01359 241541**

**PARKING**  
**HAVE YOUR SAY**

This is your opportunity to help shape parking for the next 20 years

Mid Suffolk now have responsibility for parking in Elmswell and they're keen to know what you think the problems are...frequently raised suggestions include;

- ✚ parking at or near the school
- ✚ parking outside the shops / nursery on Station Road
- ✚ parking at Bennett Avenue
- ✚ parking for visitors to St John's
- ✚ parking for rail users

**THEY NEED TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK THE PROBLEMS ARE.**  
 There is a survey at  
[www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/parkingstrategy](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/parkingstrategy)  
 or telephone 02392 432756

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"I have used Coakley & Theaker Estate Agents to sell three properties, all of which they handled extremely professionally."

"We can only praise Simon for the solid, professional and enthusiastic work that went into the sale."

"Your patience and liaising went a long way to bringing everything to the right conclusion. You gave it the personal touch which goes a long way."

"The professionalism and 'go the extra mile' attitude, which you do not seem to get from the big corporate agents, will be the reason we shall be returning in future."

"Your experience and calm and collected manner really showed through."

"We were grateful for your sound advice, help, willingness to be flexible and of course for quickly finding us a buyer."

"Your diligence, patience and constant shepherding of the multiple parties involved has seen the matter through to its positive conclusion."

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

"I recommend their services as you are treated more as an individual human being and not a number."

"Dealing with Simon was a comfort during what was a daunting process."

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We print here just some of the many pictures capturing various moments on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> when Elmswell, along with a few million others, had a picnic to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. The fact that the Monarch attended in person is testament to the place that Elmswell holds in her heart. Thank you for coming, Ma'am.

Her Majesty visiting friends as they gathered at Pightle Close...her connection with these good folk was never made clear.

The winner of the Blackbourne Beach Party colouring-in competition was Chloe



Little Elms pre-school gathered for a proper party with jellies





David Brown, Rosie and David Austen taking a break from labouring in the sun to spread the beach over the football pitch as an aid to drainage



The Chamberlayne Hall dramatically decorated by the Over 55's group ready for their own Jubilee feast



Some of the audience watching Donimo and Nellie at the beach party



The Baby and Toddler volunteers dishing out drinks and nibbles in the Jubilee Hall for indoor picnickers



Donimo and Nellie keep kids and adults alike enthralled.



Serious Jenga players in the Jubilee Hall



Her Majesty sent a tree and a lady in waiting to plant it – which was, with a little help from some friends and a clown, ver well done.



The traditional seaside queue for an ice cream at Blackbourne



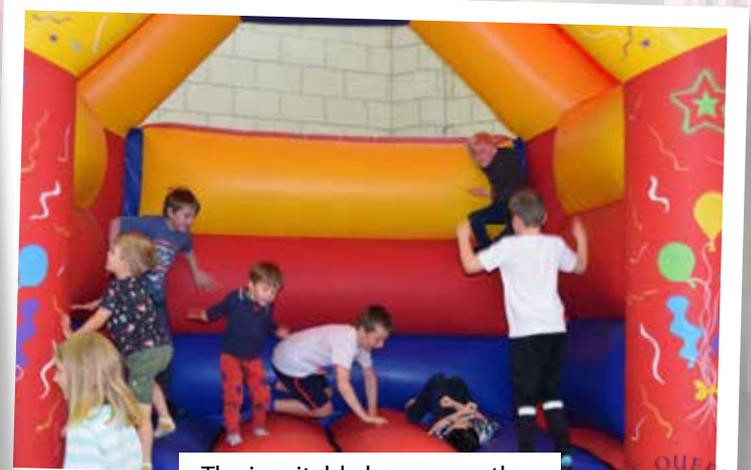
Proper digging



Donimo is helped by a volunteer



Big Games fun in the Jubilee Hall



The inevitable bouncy castle – there were 2 at Blackbourne.





Youngsters at the Kingsbrook Place gathering.



Colouring in – possibly royal blue?



Our Donut crew – they can be found at the Tavern when they're not serving picnic food.



Donimo finally sorted his juggling out.



Face painting ready for partying.



Actual picnickers at Blackbourne – hardy folk!



# NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



## Aliens land in Kiln Meadow

Every now and then the topic of alien species hits the headlines and people get excited (or anxious) about the latest sightings of “killer bees” or “concrete eating plants”. In fact many alien or invasive species have been present here living alongside us for many years. Some arrive by themselves (often due to the changing climate and more favourable conditions here), but many are actually introduced deliberately and the problems they bring only become apparent in hindsight. One familiar example is the grey squirrel which in most of England has now displaced the indigenous red squirrel, but is now so ubiquitous that the landscape

would seem strange without it. Another is the rhododendron, a prized shrub in many gardens, but which has escaped into the wild and is creating havoc in many sensitive Welsh and West Country environments. Most people will have heard of Japanese Knotweed. This feared invader can grow into vast thickets and even undermine the foundations of buildings once it takes a hold, but it was actually brought into the country by a Victorian plant collector who thought it would make an interesting addition to English gardens. Himalayan Balsam is similar – introduced for its pretty colours, it now infests many riverbanks and threatens to swamp native plant species.

Our own particular invader has been with us for several years and can be found lurking in the pond at Kiln Meadow – *Crassula Helmsii*. Hailing originally from the Antipodes, this unassuming little plant can grow equally well in water or on land and, once established, grows into a vast thick mat to the detriment of any less robust native aquatic plants. Unless treated, it will eventually destroy the pond altogether by forming a deep carpet of vegetation and creeping out over the banks to the neighbouring land. It causes no end of problems, but as with many invasive species, we only have ourselves to blame. *Crassula* was until relatively recently sold in garden centres as an attractive water plant! It's now banned, of course, and we certainly didn't knowingly introduce it in Kiln Meadow, but it can

grow quickly from a tiny fragment so probably arrived accidentally on another plant or even on a water bird's foot. It's very difficult to eradicate as the stems are brittle and break as soon as you start to pull it up. We know that we'll never get rid of it altogether, so we just have to learn to live with it (like something else that arrived here recently!). Every other year when the pond is dry in summer we pull up as much as we can and leave the mats to dry out on the pond side – this also gives any little creatures hiding in the vegetation a chance to crawl back into the pond. Then we dispose of it on site. Our picture shows Bob and Hugh doing battle with the invader and clearing it out for another year..... until it grows back, of course.



Bee Orchid



Marsh Orchid



Pyramidal Orchid

## Orchids popping out all over!

We always look forward to June at Lukeswood and Kiln Meadow for the annual show of orchids. We now have Bee, Pyramidal and several types of Marsh orchids growing at both sites. This year has not disappointed – there are good numbers of all three on show. The Pyramidal are usually the easiest to spot – little splashes of lipstick pink show their presence amongst the vegetation. The Bee orchid can be more difficult to see, but is definitely worth a closer look, with its bee-imitating lip and surrounding pink petals. We were particularly pleased to find a large group of Bee orchids growing in the Green cemetery this year, and some people have even been lucky enough to find them popping up in their gardens. The Marsh orchids present the greatest difficulty in identification: there are several different kinds and they are prone to hybridise, just to complicate things. They also appear in a great variation of colours from palest pink to dark purple. They are all equally lovely and a very welcome addition to the flora of our wildlife sites. Do go and have a look before they fade for another year!

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## WESLEY UKULELE BAND

As I write, we are just days away from our 'Open Day' when anyone who fancies a 'strum' can come along to the Wesley and try out one of the spare Ukuleles that will be available for you to use. No point saying any more as it will be history by the time you read this.

We had a very busy Jubilee Sunday with gigs in Finningham followed by Combs Ford and then finishing off in our 'home-from-home', the Tavern. The weather on the day suited the gig in the pub perfectly but the first two were played to audiences huddled up in their winter clothes which they thought they had stored away for 3 or

4 months. Brave souls as they were and in true British fashion, they defied the climate and forced themselves to have a good time! The photos that follow will demonstrate. In Finningham, we played in an open-sided marquee so we were quite snug but in Combs we had just a gazebo which, apart from keeping us dry, did little else. We were extremely well catered for at Combs, it must be said.

As we were practicing for our Jubilee performances in the Wesley, who should walk in but HRH her very self! We couldn't persuade her to give us a strum but Her Highness was happy to pose with the band.

Everyone behaved impeccably and no-one asked for an autograph or, heaven forfend, a selfie. Band members who missed this one will feel themselves accursed they were not here.

The Ukes with H.R.H. (who only popped in for a latte) and Kevin leading the band at Combs

**For information please call Kevin on 01359 240604 Or email: Kevin. Knock99@gmail.com**



## CITIZENS ADVICE

**A friend of mine was recently victim to a WhatsApp phone scam, and ended up sending money to someone. I always thought "I'd never fall for it" but the messages the scammer exchanged with her seemed so plausible. It's made me feel a little nervous, as I feel it could so easily have been me. How can I keep myself safe from scammers?**

Phones and computers are a brilliant resource for staying connected with family and friends. However, they are also an opportunity for scammers to hide behind a screen and try to trick people in parting with their money. There are still plenty of phone call scams, such as pretending to be from the victim's bank, as well as newer scams like on WhatsApp and Facebook.

An increasingly common scam on WhatsApp is a scammer messaging someone claiming to be a loved one, who desperately needs some money to get home or another urgent need. As the scammer will use a generic term like "it's mum, I need help" or "dad, can you help me", people can often get

caught in trying to help and are tricked into transferring money. If you get a message like this, call the number you already have for that loved one to hear their voice and speak to them. You can then confirm whether the request is legitimate.

There are many other scams similar to this, so if your unusual contact does not fit this example, it does not mean it is legitimate.

This checklist can help you decide if something is a scam:

You don't recognise the individual or organisation. If you do recognise them, have they contacted you in the normal way?

You can't confirm their identity. If they say they are calling from a trusted source such as

a bank, contact your bank directly to confirm their identity. Be aware that scammers can stay on the line after you have hung up, so do this from a different telephone or go into the bank.

You've been asked to hand over money or personal information. Don't give out pins, passwords, or seemingly random information. Never send money to someone you don't know

It seems too good to be true. "Get rich quick" often means "lose money fast"!

You've been asked to pay in an unusual way. Such as online vouchers

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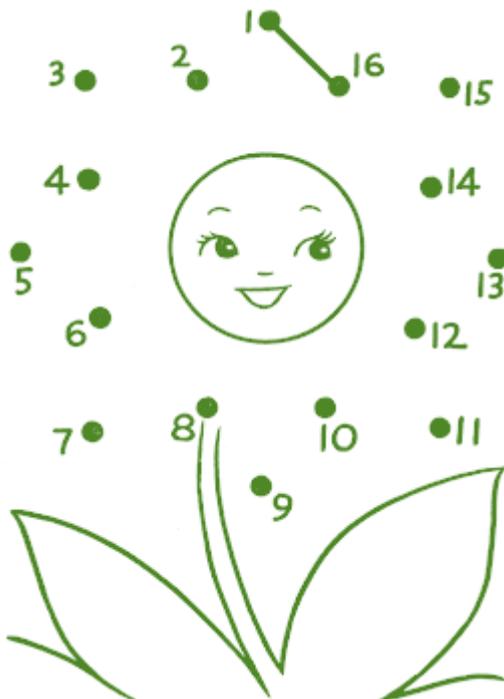
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### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Things are picking up as we head into pre-season. Training will have started up Grove Lane by the time you read this. We will be there every Wednesday, starting at 7pm. If any new faces are interested in getting involved, please come along, you are more than welcome (we are the Men's Saturday team). We historically have our preseason training and friendlies at 'Grove' to allow the cricketers the freedom of Blackbourne but it also gives the pitch a chance to recover. This year we will be re-turfing the goalmouths at The Blackbourne (hopefully very soon) and with the funding secured by Shaun Pratt we plan to install new goalposts with 'box nets' in time for the league start in late August.

The Suffolk and Ipswich League AGM is next week, where we will find out what divisions our two teams will be in. It was voted to amalgamate the intermediate reserve divisions into the rest, so check in again next month to find out where we've ended up in the re-shuffle.

The First Team have a slot or two available for their preseason friendlies and The Reserves are now fully booked.

#### The list of games for July is –

- July 16th Firsts v Needham Phoenix (home) 2pm ko
- July 21st Reserves v Old Newton A (home) 6:30 ko
- July 23rd Reserves v Mendlesham (home) 2pm ko
- July 30th Firsts v Somersham (away tbc) 2pm ko
- July 30th Reserves v Palgrave Wanderers (home) 2pm ko



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	July 23rd
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	July 30th
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	Wanderers
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	StowFalcons
	Reserves
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	Needham
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## ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

We are almost halfway through our season 2022 season and so it is as good a time as any to take stock. The Monday afternoon team is rooted at the bottom of Division 1 with one solitary point which we managed to prise away from Wortham when they came to visit. That match ended Wortham 32 Elmswell Fox 28 and we were awarded the point for winning one of the rinks. Pretty close, I am sure you'll agree. However, subsequent matches have gone against with opponents scoring double ours. We are clearly doomed to be relegated but, in fairness, we should have gone down last year but relegation was cancelled due, you've guessed it, to Covid.

Dick Burch's Thursday team is faring much better in Division 2 of that League. They are 4th in the league having beaten Coney Weston, who are currently top, at home and Haughley, who are 2nd, away. They have

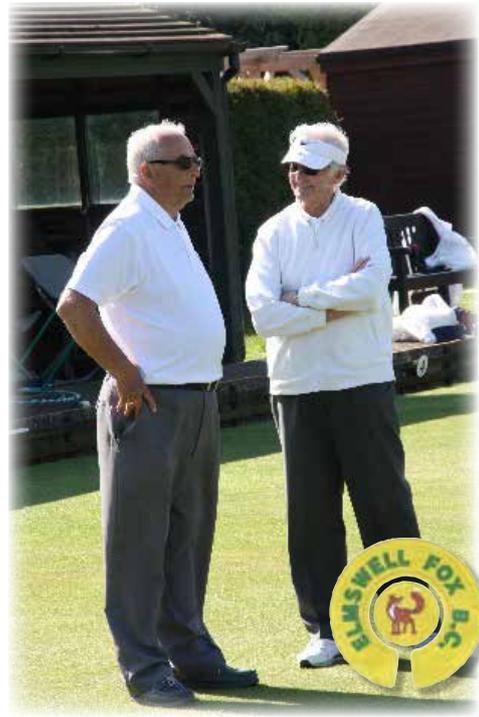
also vanquished Hopton, away, and G.W. Staniforth (Thetford) and lost to West Row, at home, and St Edmundsbury, away.

The Tuesday evening league team is doing quite well but, unfortunately, results are not easy to come by so I can't bore you with any more statistics but, suffice it to say, it feels as if we are mid-table or thereabouts.

This month I have some photos from our friendly against old pals Coney Weston for you.

*Left: Peter Williams chatting to opposing Skip, Ed, and above a group featuring Rob Dann in the foreground with John Irving and Pauline Collins further back. Cruelly dissected by the inept cameraman is Dick Burch taking notes from the sidelines.*

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# PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - June 2022



The June meeting of the Parish Council convened in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne on Monday 20th with 7 councillors present, together with SCC Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen, the Parish Clerk and 4 members of the public.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises 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 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](https://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 May Annual 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 BMSDC activities which confirmed that the new café at Needham Lake is recently opened and was initially overrun with visitors. Meanwhile, the Cabinet is considering a 5 point action plan to help residents through the cost of living crisis. The aim of the plan is to try to ensure that those in need are able to access Government help and other organisations, and to maintain good physical and mental health. Further Cabinet discussions will relate to plans for a new hub in Stowmarket. The master plan incorporates two parcels of land at Chilton Fields and Stowmarket High School. Two all weather pitches, a mini running track and a new sports pavilion are included in the proposal. Babergh and Mid Suffolk are carrying out their annual survey of residents. Hopefully this will enable the Councils to understand more about residents' and communities resilience and to help improve customer service. Up to 8,000 households from districts will be randomly selected and invited to take part. The next round of Locality Grants is now open. Although the deadline is not until March 2023, the Ward Members welcome applications from community groups in Woolpit and Elmswell. Details are available on the website <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/communities/grants-and-funding/locality-awards-guidance/>. Please contact one of them personally in the first instance. They have already used some of the funding to support the Jubilee Celebrations in both villages.

**Suffolk County Council** Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report confirming that Suffolk County Council unanimously supported a Proposal from the GLI opposition group for greater commitment towards improving rivers in Suffolk. Currently, all Suffolk rivers have been reported by the Environment Agency to have failed government standards. Increased pollution comes from a rise in untreated sewage discharges, as well as chemicals and other pollutants that run off into waterways. The successful motion committed SCC to improving

rivers, investigating what more can be done to enhance waterways, and increase engagement and support with farmers and environmental groups in any future strategies.

Council also agreed to request Network Rail to make progress with strategic works on the network, specifically improvements to the Haughley junction to improve the flow of traffic through the junction, in particular freight trains coming to and from Felixstowe - this should remove more freight traffic from the road.

The opposition group has started a petition, requesting that SCC considers an in-house bid for the new Suffolk Highways contract. The contract, which will have been held by Kier for 10 years, is up for renewal in September next year. Recently astronomical price quotes have been seen for the maintenance of Suffolk's highways, including £5,000 for a pair of dropped kerbs, £7,500 to cut down a single tree, and £10,000 to design (not build) four humps in a road. These seem to result from Kier's financial losses in other parts of the contract and hence the need to claw back costs on small works.

The GLI group believes that an in-house bid from SCC to take back control of Suffolk Highways is needed. The bid would also provide a necessary benchmark for any competitive bid coming from external companies, making sure Suffolk taxpayers get value for money.

3,675 signatures are needed to bring this to debate at the Council and the Report urged residents who agree with this initiative you can sign at [https://www.petitions.net/for\\_suffolk\\_county\\_council\\_to\\_develop\\_an\\_in-house\\_bid\\_for\\_suffolk\\_highways\\_maintenance](https://www.petitions.net/for_suffolk_county_council_to_develop_an_in-house_bid_for_suffolk_highways_maintenance)

National Grid are consulting on their proposal to install a new line of overhead high voltage power lines, supported by pylons, across Suffolk's countryside. The justification for this is the need to connect electricity produced by off-shore wind farms into the grid. The GLI group is strongly against this development, which

will have a severe impact on Suffolk's rural landscape and cultural heritage. The proposals have been criticised by Conservative MPs Dan Poulter and James Cartledge. The emerging consensus is that power should be brought down the north sea using undersea cables as part of a strategic network, rather than over land.

It is hoped that there will be a cross-party response from the County Council and meetings are taking place in order to facilitate this.

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

DC/22/01994 Erection of single detached garage at 2 Bennett Avenue GRANTED EPC supported

DC/22/01224 Hybrid planning erection of 1no detached dwelling ... Holly Lodge, Cross Street GRANTED EPC objected

DC/22/01114 Change of use and conversion of barn into residential annexe...rebuild of adjoining structures into farm office etc...domestic swimming pool GRANTED EPC supported

**Planning applications** The Meeting considered in detail 8 applications forwarded from Mid Suffolk for consideration. No comment was made on the technical matters relating to the proposed variation of 2 conditions at Lawn Farm Quarry ref SCC/0101/21MS/VOC, on those relating to a variation to condition 18 relating to 65 dwellings on land to the former Bacon Factory site, ref. DC/22/02845 or regarding the application for Advertisement Consent on land at the Stag Café on the old A45, ref.DC/22/02993. An application for an extension and new garage/store at Oakdene, Ashfield Road, was supported. Objections were made regarding the following applications, largely based on the fact that they are all related to sites in the countryside where development is only permitted under extenuating Planning-related circumstances: Hill Farm Barn on Ashfield Road ref.



DC/22/02902 for the conversion of an existing cart lodge into a dwelling; C Finch at Kiln Lane ref DC/22/02951 for the erection of up to 4 dwellings; The Old Granary adjacent to Ten-Ten at Kiln Lane ref DC/22/02641 for the conversion and extension of the barn to form a dwelling. Full details of the Council's comments are to be found on the MSDC Planning website under the specific references.

With regard to the Application ref DC/22/01615 for the approval of Reserved Matters on the site off School Road recently granted Permission for 86 houses, the Clerk was delegated to make a response summarising Council's long-held objections to certain aspects of the proposals given that the consultation timescale did not allow discussion at the meeting. The comments, as below, were reinforced when the Clerk attended and spoke at the relevant MSDC Planning Control Committee meeting in Ipswich on 22nd June when Approval was given, following certain amendments yet to be detailed, by a vote of 4-2.

Elmswell Parish Council urges rejection of this application for the following reasons:

- 1 The early years provision as proposed suggests a cramped result both in terms of the lack of space for formal and informal external play or recreation facilities, for on-site parking and for drop-off / pick-up short term parking arrangements.
- 2 The tight site on which the early years facility stands will encourage parking for pick-up and collection to be on the estate roads which will considerably inconvenience the residents at these times. This factor will also encourage parking on School Road itself to facilitate pedestrian access gained along the boundary footway presenting the hazardous prospect of a line of parked cars at peak times on this busy feeder road.
- 3 The lack of differentiation between the highway traffic and the community cycle/footway is a retrograde factor which goes against the expectations derived from the many years of negotiation in which the community has engaged with Sustrans and others. The opportunity should be seized for grade differentiation and a green barrier to encourage the use of the more sustainable route and away from the road.
- 4 As at 3 above, the proposal effectively removes the opportunity for the community cycle/pedestrian path to pass behind the church, a route which not only presents a far safer and more pleasant option towards encouraging use but which also lessens the major engineering problems regarding the crossing at Bunkers Hill.
- 5 The visibility to the east down School

Road from the proposed crossing point at the Church Road / School road junction will not be improved by what is proposed, despite the heavier traffic flows generated by the proposal. The opportunity should be taken for the verge fronting Church Mount & St Lucy to be widened so as to allow pedestrians access to a crossing point further to the east allowing a clear view of the School Road traffic approaching the junction.

**Clerk's Report** The monthly report from the Clerk's office included the following items for information:

- Discussions have continued, including site meetings, with Ward Members, the Mid Suffolk Chief Planning Officer, the MSDC Planning Case Officer, SCC Highways officers and with the Developer, regarding the highways mitigation measures and Community Path detailing re the site at Scholl Road ref DC/18/02146 for 86 dwellings and a pre-school facility. It seems that the disparity between the Minuted decision at the MSDC Planning Committee and the subsequent publication of the relevant constraints with regard to the trigger point for the commencement of building works in relation to the Safety Audit and highways works is not a material problem. It also seems that School Road will have to be closed for 6 months, being the most practical way forward considering the number of Statutory Undertakers needing to lay and / or divert services and for the actual highway works to be carried out. I have secured the promise of Council's very early involvement on the community's behalf in the planning of road closures and diversions. Meanwhile, Cllr Mellen is liaising with Highways officers towards securing detailed improvements to the scheme in light of observations he has had from residents and cyclists regarding road width and adequate separation between the highway and the community path. I am attending the MSDC Planning Committee meeting at Ipswich on Wednesday next, 22nd when I shall reinforce the case which, under Delegated Powers, I made against the Approval of Reserved Matters.
- On 25th May I met with Cllrs Pallet and Mansel to hear from the developer, Orbit, and their agent Armstrong Rigg details of the proposals for the 65 dwellings on the extended Bacon Factory development. ref DC/20/01677. The principles on which it is suggested the final estate will be designed seem to be soundly based in terms of density, sustainability and space requirements to NDSS standard or better and the whole site will be available on better-than-open-market rental or shared equity basis.

• I am liaising on the community's behalf with Network Rail regarding all-day closures of the railway crossing for three Saturdays in August and one in October for the complete replacement of the gates and ancillary equipment when it is proposed that a mini-bus service for pedestrians will take them over the line by a diversionary route. We are trying for meetings at an early stage with the team managing the process towards minimising inconvenience and encouraging the exchange of information.

• The Platinum Jubilee beach party at Blackbourne was a great success and benefitted from having the indoor facilities available given that the weather was not spectacularly encouraging. As part of the funding agreed I have promised grant aid to 2 separate street party groups who approached me at the steering meetings. The exercise remained within budget. Particular thanks go to David and Rosie Brown who toiled for many hours working as volunteers with David Austen, our new weekend caretaker / handyman, to distribute the 30 tonnes of beach sand as a dressing across the main football pitch providing valuable drainage improvement. The work was done in heat and humidity that was somewhat lacking on party day and their tenacity is to be applauded.

• The consultation on the draft Elmswell Neighbourhood Plan remains live until 1st July. Responses are monitored by our professional advisers, Planning4People, who confirm that a steady trickle has been received from public and consultees alike. There is still time for the encouragement of further response and I would ask that Councillors spread the word whenever possible.

• The joint exercise of fitting rooflights and re-coating the steel cladding to the original Chamberlayne Hall / changing rooms roofing was much affected by the weather but is now completed to the satisfaction of Cllr Pallett whose professional assessment was key to both the specification and execution. The roof now has a further 25 years of guaranteed life. Some of the detailed work to the seals on the existing penetrations was carried out by David Austen, now retained as weekend caretaker and handyman, at a considerable saving over the quoted 'variation' price.

**Planning application for Crown Mill footbridge site** The Meeting agreed to make a Planning Application for a dwelling on the site at Crown Mill which, in 1991, Council secured from the developers of the estate with a view to siting a footbridge over the railway line. The footbridge was granted Planning Permission in 1998, in 2004 and again in



2013 whilst funding was sought, but the introduction of new regulations requiring disabled access gradient rendered the site too small for its original purpose. Accordingly, Councillors wish to realise the value of the site by securing Planning Permission before sale with the proceeds dedicated to the Elmswell Community Land Trust proposals for locally controlled affordable homes on the original Greene King site which Council bought for this purpose in 2020.

**Recycling Centre management**  
Volunteers from The Girl Guiding body, The Trefoil Guild, were thanked for their recent 3 months of stewarding the Council's Station Road recycling centre and a grant of £150.00 was made to the Guild funds. There is an open invitation, through the Clerk's office, to any and all local community groups and organisations to help maintain the paper, bottle and textile banks in a clean and tidy condition which good works

are recognised by a Council grant. Currently the Gardening Club have undertaken the task in parallel with their excellent voluntary efforts to maintain the impressive floral displays on the railway station platforms.

**Green cemetery** The volunteers at ElmsWild are to be asked to advise on a management regime at the Council's green cemetery land adjacent to Lukeswood with a view to protecting the orchids which have recently emerged there under a less frequent cutting regime and to implement a programme of mowing and baling to encourage further wild flower growth.

**CCTV** It was agreed that the contract to supply and install a comprehensive external CCTV system at Blackbourne should be awarded to Messrs Anglian Security who currently maintain the fire and intruder alarms at the facility. The base-price costing is £7,125.99. The

cameras will provide high quality security footage, as encouraged by the Police, covering the car park and all of the 11 acre site and, as currently with the internal CCTV system, will help with management of the site, especially at weekends when remote imaging of the increasing number of lettings is particularly useful.

**Next meeting** It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 18th July beginning at 7.30pm at 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 online at [elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk](http://elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk) cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.



**Your Councillors are**

David Barker Linden Croft Hawk End Lane ELMSWELL IP30 9ED	01359 241135	david@linden-croft.co.uk	Vice chairman of Council Planning Committee Complaints Committee
David Brown 16 Whatley Close ELMSWELL IP30 9GJ	07803 263454	davidedward.brown@outlook.com	Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Dick Burch 14 Wetherden Road ELMSWELL IP30 9DF	01359 240105	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	Poor's Land Charity Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Peter Edmonds Little Acre Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	01359 241640  07860 395720	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Peter Hancock Jubilee End 17A Jubilee Terrace ELMSWELL IP30 9 DH	07483 850965	prjhancock24@btinternet.com	Footpath Officer Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association Elmswell Amenities Association Planning Committee Complaints Committee
David Hawes Dunelm Cooks Road ELMSWELL IP30 9BX	01359 240249	davidandanna70@yahoo.co.uk	Planning Committee
Sarah Mansel Ashcroft House Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HJ	07860 829517	sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Planning Committee Complaints Committee Also serves as Ward Member on Mid Suffolk District Council
Fred Pallett Maple Cottage Warren lane ELMSWELL IP30 9DT	01359 408232  07771 962441	fjp@oilgasassociates.com	Chairman of Council Poor's Land Charity Planning Committee Complaints Committee
Sue Roots 7 Warren Close ELMSWELL IP30 9DS	01359 240164	sue2955@hotmail.co.uk	Planning Committee Complaints Committee Newsletter Report Editorial Board
Mike Schofield Minerva Fairmead ELMSWELL IP30 9HT	01359 241430	mhaksch@gmail.com	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Philip Shaw East View Ashfield Road ELMSWELL IP30 9HG	01359 241192	philipshaw@btinternet.com	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Safeguarding Lead Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association Planning Committee Complaints Committee

**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 18th Sept 19th Oct 17th Nov 21st Dec 19th

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](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)

Tel. 244134 [www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud)



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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
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Simon Theaker	simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
Blackbourne – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Brownies & Rainbows	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Jean Folkard	derekrf2@gmail.com	
Community Speed Watch	Marie Spampinato	mariespampinato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Andy Mellen	Andy.Mellen@ suffolk.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks (Sec.)	elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Helen Geake	Helen.geake@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange afternoon WI	Maureen Davis	modavis6@gmail.com	
Exchange Club	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	
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	Barry Hayward	barryhayward1902@gmail.com	240951
Friends of St Johns	Jean Folkard	derekrf2@gmail.com	242099
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Tammy	elmswellguides@outlook.com	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Voices (Choir)	Anna Wilton Mills	annawm63@gmail.com	
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
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	Jen & Lizzie	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	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

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

**IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY THAT YOUR DETAILS APPEAR HERE,  
PLEASE DO BE IN TOUCH VIA eea @elmswell.org.uk**

# What's On in Elmswell ?



To be included in our events diary make sure you send separate notification of your announcement.

For a full year's calendar of what's booked at Blackbourne, please go to the Parish Council website at [www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk) - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

## July 2022

- 7 Over 55's club Strawberry Supper
- 12 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. Social evening, outside if possible.
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 21 Over 55's club Jonny Rondo Country Music

## August 2022

- 4 Over 55's club Bingo
- 9 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. Elmswell in the past, Paul Peachey.
- 18 Over 55's club Sing along with Hank

## September 2022

- 8 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Don Hill:History of Caister Lifeboat, since 1791.  
\*Annual Subs Due\*

- 12 10.30am Ladies Friendship Group - A visit to The Hut at Felixstowe inc Fish & Chip lunch - men welcome as well
- 13 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. Secrets of stained glass, Michelle Russell.

## October 2022

- 3 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Floristry demonstration by Tracey Ball
- 11 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. B&B to B and bondage, Sue Dawson
- 13 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Barbara McElroy: A Suffolk 'Bevin Boy', 1943-48

## November 2022

- 7 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Candle Arrangements and Table Decorations

- 8 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. Natural Dyes, the dye process with Edwina
- 10 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Nick Amor: Keeping the Peace in Medieval Suffolk

## December 2022

- 5 7pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Nosh & Natter with entertainment by The Wesley Ukulele Band - men welcome as well
- 8 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Hexachordia: "In Fields of Frost & Snow" - live music presentation of mirth and merriment for the Festive Season in 16th & 17th Centuries.
- 13 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. Christmas Party

## 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](mailto:sarahjane.fitness@outlook.com)

**KARATE** with Lewis - Tuesday 4.30 - 5.45 / Friday 5.00 - 7.00 [info@gtheadma.com](mailto:info@gtheadma.com)

**JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE** - Monday & Wednesday 6.30 - 8.30 [ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com](mailto:ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com) tel. 07711 680262

**BABY & TODDLER GROUP** - Monday mornings [elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com)

**BATS- badminton / table tennis / pool** at Blackbourne Friday nights 7 - 9.30 [simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk](mailto:simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk)

**BOWLS** - [barryhayward1902@gmail.com](mailto:barryhayward1902@gmail.com) tel. 240951

**GUIDES** - Monday evenings 5.00 - 8.30 [elmswellguides@outlook.com](mailto:elmswellguides@outlook.com)

**FOOTBALL** - [shaun.pratt@btinternet.com](mailto:shaun.pratt@btinternet.com) 07494 864231

**RAINBOWS** - [elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com](mailto:elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com)

**JUNIOR FOOTBALL** - [smyth98@hotmail.com](mailto:smyth98@hotmail.com) 07717 841591

**CUBS** Tuesdays 6.15 - 7.30 - [claremariekeefe@gmail.com](mailto:claremariekeefe@gmail.com)

**BEAVERS /SCOUTS** - Wednesday 5.45 - 9.15 [ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:jenlerner@gmail.com)

**TREFOIL GUILD** - 1st Tuesday monthly [lesley.grout@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.grout@btinternet.com)

**MARDLE QUILTERS** - last Friday monthly [carpajak@aol.com](mailto:carpajak@aol.com)

**MOO MUSIC** - Fridays 12.45 - 3.15 [bury@moo-music.co.uk](mailto:bury@moo-music.co.uk)

**WI** - evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm Terry Byford [bbazby@aol.com](mailto:bbazby@aol.com)

**WI** - afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett [carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk)

**ART CLUB** at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 - 12.00 John Welford [welford955@btinternet.com](mailto:welford955@btinternet.com)

**HISTORY GROUP** at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 [stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk)

**GARDEN CLUB** at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 [elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com)

**CARPET BOWLS** - Wednesday 7.00pm at Wesley - [jf.boxall@btinternet.com](mailto:jf.boxall@btinternet.com)

**COMPANIONS** - every other Friday 10 - 12 at Wesley - [linda@abbott.plus.com](mailto:linda@abbott.plus.com)

**PILATES** - Monday & Friday mornings - [suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk](mailto:suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk)

**BINGO** - Blackbourne, last Friday monthly doors open 6.30...eyes-down 7.30

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](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)

## Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: July 26th, August 23rd, September 27th

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

Our new email address is [EAA@elmswell.org.uk](mailto:EAA@elmswell.org.uk) Your editors: Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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