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NOVEMBER 2022

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TARGET AMOUNT: Minimum share target £100,000
Maximum share target £500,000



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FOR OUR COMMUNITY

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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; ea.elsmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

We live in interesting times. Frenetic times, as an inglorious circus parade of our supposed elders and betters come and go and swap places like a game of musical chairs – only no-one ever takes one of the chairs away, so the game goes on...

It will provide rich pickings for the pub quiz & Trivial Pursuit industry. Top Tip: in the 'Name That Year' round most of the answers will be '2022'.

More lastingly, perhaps, we are bystanders to the ever-scrolling text of 'History'. In which we all play a part, however minor. It is an ever-emerging picture of who we are and the way we are.

Looking at the way we are in our own little corner of History today we can easily identify significant individual frames in that scrolling text. Moyses's Hall museum in Bury still houses reconstructions of the Roman pots dug up in Elmswell in 1964 from a kiln which operated in about 250 AD. By the 11th century we can make an informed guess from our entry in the Domesday Book that Elmswell housed some 200 souls clustered around the ancient Buppenhaugh Green to the west of Ashfield Road. But the real gamechanger came in 1844 when the Stowmarket to Bury branch of the London-Ipswich railway line was routed through Elmswell. We were split in two but, the world was on our doorstep...4 trains every day to Bury or to Ipswich serviced by 5 station staff expanding to 14 over the next half century as traffic grew to some 50 trains a day and the freight they carried brought prosperity – not least our Bacon Factory.

Although the station remains a significant factor in Elmswell's growth, we are swept along by other factors: the tide of prosperity creeping from London, the wealth generated by the ever-increasing influence of Cambridge boosted by our A14 links with Felixstowe at its eastern end and with the rest of the UK off to the west. Our recent history, therefore, is of a rapidly expanding population.

It is at this point that we can bring in an external view on History. Mahatma Gandhi suggested, and went on to prove through example, that, 'A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history'. Various such small bodies have, in living memory, shaped Elmswell to suit the times they lived in. Volunteer labour built the Memorial Hall on a site gifted to the village at Cooks Road and which served the post-war generations well in terms of community provision until another band of 'determined spirits' managed, in the early 1990's, to acquire the Blackbourne Meadow site and build the first tranche of what is now a large and thriving community centre, itself soon to be further expanded by the acquisition of 6 more acres of community land. Under development pressures which have made Elmswell the largest village in Mid Suffolk, Blackbourne was not enough, and, in 2017, the determination of the village's spirit enabled the purchase of the unused Victorian Wesley chapel and its subsequent

hard-won transformation into the Wesley coffee shop and meeting rooms to create a real and vibrant hub of community activity and social coming together. Determination was further demonstrated when the village was asked to support the purchase from Greene King of their Railway Tavern site at School Road. Armed with the resulting clear vote to go ahead the site was purchased, a Community Land Trust formed to take further the aspiration for locally controlled community houses on the site, and a Community Interest Company came together to develop a community pub.

Which is where the history stops and we all have a chance to shape Elmswell's future-yet-to-come.

The community pub model is well established over many recent years with some 120 operating successfully UK wide, many of them in the east of England and several in Suffolk. The process begins when a group of enthusiasts - 'determined spirits' - sets up a framework to allow investment from the community and beyond so that the premises can be bought and shaped by that community to serve its individual needs. Our own such group has an advantage – the building was already secured to prevent its development into a private house and the challenge now is to refurbish and expand around the historic core to create the Elmswell Tavern. The scheme runs parallel to the development of the community housing scheme to the rear of the large site and both seek mutual benefit – not least from a community heating scheme based on ground source heating technology.

The group has recently put theory to the test and taken on the running of the pub day-to-day. The result of asking people what they want has encouraged the development of special children's days with Sam's bouncy castle and more, of Bingo and quiz nights, of karaoke and Last Friday / First Friday specials, of street food and pizzas on site, of the Wesley Ukes monthly singalongs and has given birth to a regular monthly folk club and the twice-weekly foodbank helping to address current cost of living pressures. All of this in the space of 8 months suggests that the potential is possibly even greater than at first envisaged – and the key addition of catering in the new enterprise promises a whole new aspect of people-pleasing and strengthens the business plan considerably.

You can help write another page of Elmswell history.



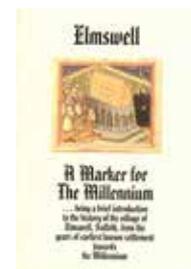
1. Read some or all of the Share Issue document which came through the door with your Newsletter – if you have picked the magazine up at one of our distribution points without the Tavern insert, go to www.elsmswelltavern.co.uk or ring 01359 244134



2. Apply for some shares – £50.00 buys you a membership as a share owner. If you can afford to help by buying more (makes for an interesting Christmas present) the upper limit is £10K!



3. Follow the progress of your investment as the funding is found and the scale of the refurbishment / expansion is translated into plans and contracts and a grand re-opening. Come to the Tavern and enjoy what you have helped to create.



4. Take a look at a History of Elmswell in, say, 50 years' time. You or your kids, or their kids, can take a pride in the fact that you helped to write it. And there'll still be a pub to visit.





ELMSWELL ART CLUB

This month, we would like to profile one of our longest serving members, John Welford. An Elmswell resident, John has served the Art Club admirably as our Deputy Chair responsible for Publicity and Marketing which has involved, amongst many other things, the production of our monthly Newsletter articles. However, due to personal reasons, John has now decided to relinquish this role whilst remaining an active club member. Accordingly, we wanted to share some details of John's "colourful" history

John was born in north London just before the outbreak of the Second World War. In 1944, aged 6, John was evacuated for some months to Sheringham in Norfolk, due to the threat caused by the German army's indiscriminate use of rockets. Prior to evacuation, John was quite used to watching the rockets come over and suddenly their engines would cut out at which point fear and panic set in. On his return from Norfolk, he was relieved to see that their house was still standing, albeit with internal damage.

Money was tight and there was no spare money to indulge in the sorts of expensive activities that youngsters are able to enjoy today. His family had a large garden put down to vegetables (even on top of the Anderson shelter!) and they also rented 2 allotments. At the age of 11,

John went to Trinity Grammar School where he met his future wife (a proper marriage bureau!) John's art master at Trinity was a real character who provided great encouragement and enthusiasm for painting which John has retained to this day.

After school John spent a year in the merchant navy followed by a 2 year stint doing national service in the Coldstream Guards. There followed marriage and the raising of a family which put a stop to any thoughts of painting for close on 20 years.

All of his working life John was a salesman

in a variety of sectors, including ladies underwear (no comments please!), tyres, lawnmowers and advertising. He attended a number of art classes, none of which did much for John and he felt that he learned very little. However, once their children started to do their own thing, John and Sue saw the world by going on various cruises and on each cruise one passenger would arrange art sessions for anyone who 'wanted to have a go'. One of these passengers really lit the flame for John to take painting slightly more seriously and, since then, he has maintained a strong interest. He only does watercolour and mainly landscapes. He insists that; "I'm not much good but I have fun doing it and really enjoy the company during our Tuesday morning sessions at the Wesley"

We have included one of John's recent paintings; a watercolour entitled Brunswick Lighthouse, Canada and we are sure that you will agree with us that John is a very modest artist indeed!!

Our other painting this week is of Tarn Hows, near Coniston in the Lake District; this is a watercolour by Ann Smith.

Elmswell Art Club is a friendly, sociable group of local artists who meet at the Wesley every Tuesday between 09:00 and 12:00. New members of all abilities and styles are always welcome.

Eddie Douglas



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ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON WI

Our October meeting began with one minute's silence in memory of our late Queen Elizabeth. She had been a W.I. member for most of her adult life and was President of the Sandringham W.I. Sylvia, one of our members, recalls attending meetings at Sandringham when the Queen was present and has fond memories of those days.

Our guest for the afternoon was Amanda Sutherland who designs and creates amazing accessories. Amanda studied at The London College of Fashion and graduated having achieved excellent results. She then managed to earn herself a job as Head Buyer at The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. A real opportunity. Then progressed through costume design for West End Productions and T.V. series. A



final boost to her career was a role at Angels the Costumiers. Each post she took taught her something new and different. Her skills and experience widened considerably. After a two year spell with her own stall at the famous All Saints Makers Market in Cambridge, Amanda now has her own design business and concentrates mainly on accessories, many created from recycled materials. Very original and unusual jewellery is included in this. The fascinators in the photo were made from recycled waxed milk cartons. The photo below that is of Amanda's market stall in Cambridge All Saints Market.



During a refreshment break our ladies "went to town" on Amanda's Sales Tables, including me. We went away with hats, scarves, wrist warmers, original jewellery, in fact anything we could grasp. We all had a fantastic afternoon and we will invite Amanda back in the future with Part II of her story.

The competition was an item of jewellery over 50 years old. The winner was Maureen Lazarus who brought her Nana's engagement ring, second Maureen Davis with an Art Deco owl brooch and third Elizabeth with an old silver watch. Congratulations to them.

We will be running a trip for members to Scotsdales in Cambridge on Wednesday November 16th. Christmas shopping at it's best.

Our guest speaker next month, on Wednesday 2nd November, is Graham Higgins who is going to tell us all about Haunted Denham. Competition is a handmade mask.

For any further information please contact Mary on 245022 or Maureen on 241033. Guests and new members are always welcome.



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ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

Elmswell Garden Club opened its doors again on Tuesday October 17th for our penultimate meeting before the winter break.

It was good to welcome Simon White to the Wesley to hear his talk 'Climbers and Rambling Roses for every situation'. He thoroughly covered the growing of climbing and rambling roses in pots, against walls, along fences and in a variety of different locations. It was an excellent time to have him with us as the season is just right to plant new roses. He brought a lovely selection of roses and a variety of other plants to sell at the end of the evening as well as other gardening



paraphernalia including bottles of 'Uncle Tom's' a highly recommended rose tonic. He also kindly donated a white rose to add to our raffle. The rose in the photographs is a 'Rambling Rector', which is one of Simon's favourite roses because of its adaptability and abundant growth.

There are several differences between rambling and climbing roses. The latter are more likely to repeat flower during a season and tend to have larger blooms, but their stems are often a little more robust and therefore more difficult to train. By contrast rambling roses tend to have large clusters of smaller flowers and only flower once. However, they have more pliable stems making it easier to twist them along fences or around obelisks or pergolas. If the stems can be trained horizontally the plant will produce more flowers which appear on wood grown the previous year. Ramblers are best pruned shortly after they have flowered, whereas climbers can be left until the winter, so that the rose hips can be enjoyed.

Simon's talk was really informative and his wealth of knowledge about roses was formidable! He strongly urged us to visit the Peter Beales Garden Centre describing it as a 'destination'. There are over 11,000 varieties of rose sold at the centre and two



and a half acres of gardens including wildlife gardens and of course a restaurant - an essential element in any day trip!

Peter Beales Garden Centre in Attleborough, Norfolk is open 7 days a week and stocks an extensive range of not only roses, but bedding plants, perennials etc.

<https://www.classicroses.co.uk> › specialist-rose-and-plan...

Our final meeting of the year will be at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 22nd November at the Wesley. Newcomers will be made most welcome.



If you'd like to know more about the club please email elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com or phone 01359 242172 to speak to Catherine

ELMSWELL WI

Brenda welcomed us all and we sang Jerusalem.

Claire brought her new little daughter, Martha, to see us and we all felt rather broody! She is gorgeous with masses of dark hair.

We are really enjoying getting together at the Wesley, which has a lovely atmosphere and is just the right size for our group. Old and new members are getting to know each other and we have some lively conversations.

Brenda emphasised that the committee consisted mainly of older people and was aware that suggested activities might not suit some of the younger members. It would be great to have ideas for speakers and activities from them. We then discussed how we might rearrange the programme for our meetings. Eg. would people like to have refreshments at the beginning of a meeting

while the speaker is entertaining us?

Sue Dawson was our speaker for the evening, and she proceeded to tell us stories about her varied and colourful life. After living in poor circumstances in London, she married and moved to Great Yarmouth. She began to run a Bed and Breakfast establishment there. During the summer months she hosted holiday makers, but in the winter months times were hard. However, Sue gradually built up an alternative clientele during these months, and told us stories about her experiences.

Sylvia Watton gave a very entertaining vote of thanks!

Next month, we are looking forward to learning about natural fabric dyes.

Rosie Collins
01359 241652



ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

Our next meeting is on November 10th its as close as we can get to Bonfire night so it will be Hot Dogs being served at the start of the evening there being no fireworks but there will be a chance to win some cash as we will be playing bingo for part of the evening.

On Thursday November 24th we welcome the "Jubilee Singers" accompanied by Calvin Goymer at the piano so it will be a chance to listen /join in to a great group of lady singers, there will be a small charge along with refreshments and a raffle commencing at 7 00pm.

Grant Elliston (240943)



ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

The Story of a Suffolk Bevin Boy

Our October speaker, Barbara McElroy, is the Archivist and Treasurer of the National Bevin Boys Association, having first become interested in this subject because her father served as a Bevin Boy. She explained that the Minister of Labour & National Service, Ernest Bevin, devised the scheme in 1943 whereby men were conscripted by a monthly impartial ballot to become 'Bevin Boy' miners, even though most of them had absolutely no experience of nor wish to do this work. Aged 18-24, the 'boys' came from a cross-section of society and, like Barbara's father from Bulmer near Sudbury, some came from very rural and sheltered lives, never having travelled out of their village. However, very few exceptions were made so the boys had no choice but to start their initial four-week above-ground training in what was then a very dangerous occupation in terrible conditions with no mechanisation in the privately-owned mines. Nearly 22,000 boys were recruited and, if they refused, they were imprisoned, initially for three months, but could be for the duration of the war if they still refused to take up the 'offer' of mining.



The Bevin Boys' training was only six weeks, which included building them up physically as it was a very demanding manual job. Barbara's father started at Derbyshire's Creswell Colliery, where overalls were provided for the initial training but had to be returned afterwards. However, they were advised that, because of the extreme heat and working conditions, overalls would not be required – most of the miners worked semi-naked.

The boys mainly lived in mining hostels, but some had to search for local lodgings with sympathetic householders. Often they had no access to showers after their long shifts underground, just tin baths, but at least most had extra rations and were well fed. From their ration coupons, they had to pay for their spartan accommodation, laundry, clothes and equipment, some food and union membership, and were provided with just a compressed-cardboard (not metal) helmet and steel toe-capped boots.

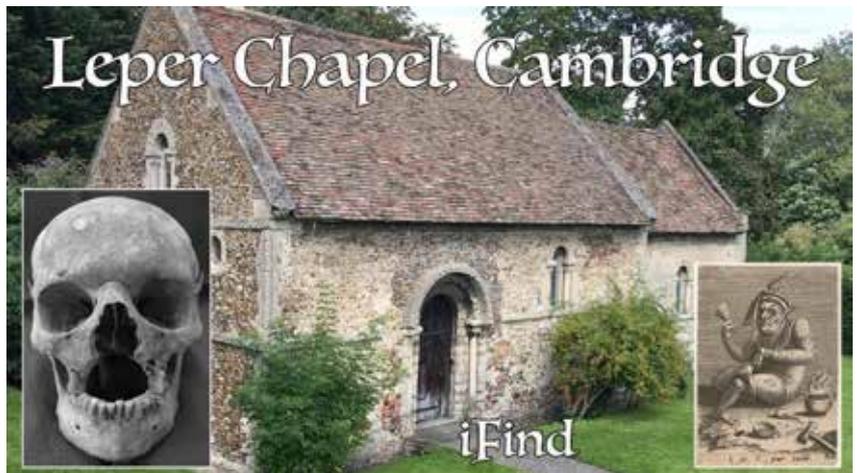
Because Barbara's father had some knowledge of horses, he was put in charge of the pit ponies which was not a popular job as it meant walking the ponies up to seven miles to the underground coalface each day, rather than riding on the mine's mini railway for the start of their shift. After three months, he became a "ripper" which involved setting the explosives at the coalface – a dangerous job but with better pay! Generally, most Bevin Boys were treated well by the experienced miners and some stayed on after the war, as did Barbara's father who remained until January 1948. By this time, about 48,000 boys had been recruited under this scheme.

The National Coal Board was set up in 1947, after which conditions improved, and the Bevin Boys Association started in 1989 with 60 active members. However, it was not until 2008 that the Bevin Boys Veteran Badge was devised and awarded to the few surviving members, and in 2013 the Bevin Boy plot and commemorative plaque was unveiled at Staffordshire's National Memorial Arboretum. Barbara felt that, generally, the boys were treated very shabbily by the government, which did not even retain the paperwork of their active war work in the mines, and the boys always remained classified as civilians, so were awarded no military honours or pensions.

The Leper Chapel of St Mary Magdalene in Barnwell, Cambridge – CB5 8JJ

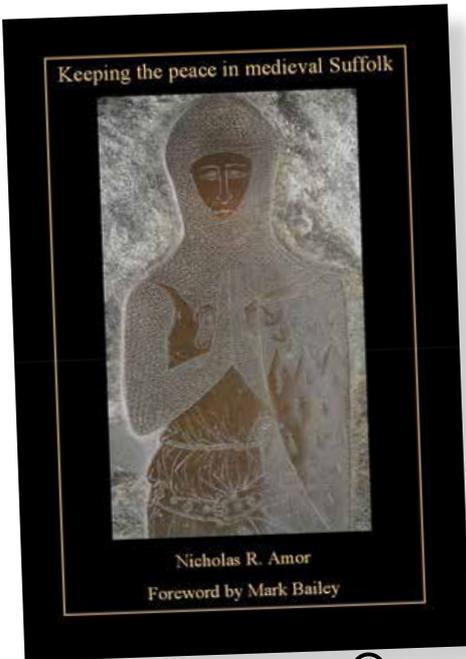
Many of you will have noticed The Leper Chapel of St Mary whilst driving in or out of Cambridge along the Newmarket Road. It is a pretty little building and an extraordinary piece of Norman architecture, dating from about 1125, now Grade 1 listed.

Although some Christmas services are held there, it is otherwise rarely used or indeed open, which is a pity because the main structures of the nave and chancel are more or less as the Normans left them. This little chapel however has its place in history - in King John's reign it was granted the right to hold an annual fair which was to ensure that funds were regularly available to provide for the various sick and needy who came under the protection and care of The Church. The Stourbridge Fair, as it became known, grew rapidly as people from far and wide travelled to it, either for trade or entertainment, including some customers from France and the Low Countries; subsequently, Daniel Defoe described it as the largest fair in Europe.



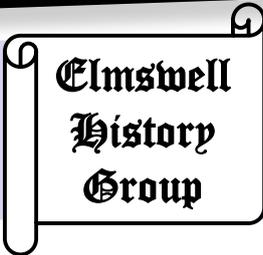
The Leper Chapel will be open on Sun 13th Nov, 1.30-3.30pm – free of charge, and there are several nearby side roads where parking is allowed. Tel: 01223-243830,

website = <https://www.cambridgeppf.org/Pages/Category/cambridge-leper-chapel>



Thurs, 10th November; 7.30pm at Wesley Hall – Illustrated Talk by Dr Nick Amor entitled “Keeping the Peace in Medieval Suffolk”. Based on his recently-published book, Nick will relate the 14th century’s tumultuous times and how Suffolk justice was meted out. An alliance was forged between gentry and village elite that became a powerful force in shaping Suffolk society, set against a turbulent background of the Great Famine, Hundred Years War, Black Death, and Peasants’ Revolt. This should make for an interesting evening from this accomplished local speaker who is the Chairman of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology & History.

At 7.30pm on 8th December, Wesley Hall - we welcome back Sarah Doig and her musical friends for their “In the Fields of Frost & Snow” live music presentation of 16th and 17th centuries’ festive mirth and merriment, played on numerous traditional instruments. The evening’s entertainment will include a seasonal buffet supper, tickets are £6 for members or £8 for non-members, and will be for sale at our 10th November meeting or at any time from 01359-242601. As in previous years, tickets are unlikely to be available on the door, so do be in touch a.s.a.p. to avoid possible disappointment.



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

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2022

It is with great sadness that in 2022, having celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we were all shocked to learn of her passing and we all need to adjust accordingly.

Her Majesty was the Patron of the Royal British Legion for many years, helping to introduce the Royal Charter that sets out the rules and regulations by which we, as a charity, must comply.

I am sure that Her Majesty would wish us to carry on with the work that the Legion does on behalf of our serving and ex serving military personnel and which we would find impossible to do without the generosity of those who donate towards the Poppy Appeal.

Being a door to door collector for the Poppy Appeal for many years in Elmswell, I am always encouraged by the generosity of villagers who donate so kindly.

Last year, my first year as the organiser, was no exception and managed to produce a staggering total of over £7,000, thanks to your generosity and the assistance of a small band of volunteers.

Unfortunately, owing to a shortage of volunteers, the amount of door to door collections will be reduced this year but, again thanks to the volunteers that we do have and, the help of Ryan at the Elmswell Co-op store, we will again be holding a table top sale within the foyer of the Co-op and contactless donations will be provided for.

Look out for a limited range of pin badges available this year to commemorate 2022 as the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands conflict and indeed, Her Majesty’s Platinum Jubilee year.

I do understand that the current economic climate will have an effect on all of us this year, but I do hope that you will be able to donate whatever you can to help those in need.

If you would like to volunteer to collect for the Poppy Appeal, or any Royal British Legion Membership enquiries you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07707 524722 or e mail nplumpton@aol.com



Festival of Remembrance

Friday 11th November 2022
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ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

As those who have been in the library in the last few weeks will notice, we have rearranged things a bit. This means we have a bit more room for things like our Knit and Natter group.

Suffolk Libraries are taking part in the warm spaces initiative. We know that keeping warm this autumn and winter is going to be difficult for some and so a free space to relax where you do not have to worry about the cost of heating will potentially be helpful.

If you are wondering what you might do when relaxing in the library here are some of the things we offer:

East Anglian Daily Times, Bury Free Press and Elmswell Newsletter. We have local papers which you can come in and sit and read.

Free wi-fi. If you have your own smartphone, tablet or laptop then you are welcome to come and use our public wi-fi.

Computer access. We have free to access computers that can be used for up to 2 hours when we are not busy.

Board games. We have some board games

that you can either play in the library or borrow for 50p per week.

Books. If you fancy reading a book in the library we have plenty to choose from. If you are looking for some shorter reads then we have a specific section for adult books under 150 pages, we have short graphic novels and manga. We also have non fiction like cookery books and poetry which you can dip into.

Art exhibition. The current exhibition is by Joff Duck. Joff is a local artist who paints landscapes of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, north and south Wales and the north of England. Mountains, coastlines, lochs, streams and skies.

November's book display is inspired by Disability History Month. The display includes a mix of disabled authors and books that include disabled characters. The display includes books like Elizabeth is missing by Emma Healey, The perseverance by Raymond Antrobus, The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman and The Arctic Curry Club by Fiona Collins.

See you in the library soon,

What's on at Elmswell Library?

Story Time

1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday

The Keep in Touch Community Café

10.30am on Wednesday 16th November at the Wesley Café (every 3rd Wednesday)

Knit and Natter

2pm – 3pm Tuesday 8th November (every 2nd Tuesday of the month)

Adult Reading Practice

Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please book in advance.

Sunday Crafts

1pm – 2pm every Sunday

Lego Club

Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

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

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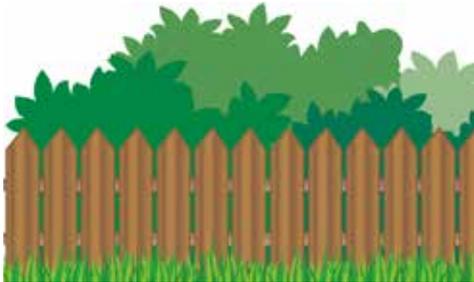
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THANK YOU to those who have already cut back hedges which are next to the road or pavement so as to make it easier for people to pass safely.

Now that the nesting season is over any overgrowth can be safely trimmed-otherwise it can cause real problems for pedestrians, particularly those in wheelchairs or pushing baby buggies who may be forced into the road if your hedge takes up the pavement.



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ROAD SAFETY

The roads in Suffolk's towns and villages are overcrowded and Elmswell is a prime example. More houses mean more cars on the same roads that served when private motor cars were rare and were outnumbered by horse-drawn carts. Through-routes such as New Road and Cooks Road cannot be widened without taking the gardens of the houses that border them – and in some cases we would need to demolish the houses themselves. In situations such as at School Road where there is land, Government rulings on what it is appropriate to require of the Developer in terms of highway access often falls short of the ideal. Our Parish Council has agreed to commission speed surveys from SCC with a view to taking further a possible 20mph limit through the heart of the village together with new improved road markings at the New Road / Cooks Road / The Street junction. If the statistics fulfil the requirements the village, through the Parish Council will have to bear some or all of the costs, but Councillors feel that they would have the backing of the community in light of the constant complaints of poor and dangerous behaviour on our roads.

Elmswell is lucky to have volunteers who regularly monitor speeds through the village and, in liaison with Suffolk police, have first-time warnings sent to those caught on camera exceeding the speed limit.

3 recent sessions yielded the following during sessions lasting 2 hours:

Ashfield Road p.m - 508 cars - 33 speeding;

- 25 cars 35mph plus
- 7 cars 40 mph plus
- 1 car 50mph plus

School Road p.m (at the middle point between the left hand turning from the church and the bend to the right)

594 cars - 35 speeding:

- 25 cars 35mph plus
- 10 cars 40mph plus

Ashfield Road a.m - 247 cars - 6 speeding

- 4 cars 35mph plus
- 1 car 40mph plus
- 1 car 50mph plus

In addition, of course, we have our Speed Indicator Units at Church Hill and Ashfield Road which are having an identifiable effect.

It remains the case, however, that the best way to effectively slow traffic through Elmswell is for Elmswell residents to stick to the speed limit as a maximum and to a sensible lower speed when conditions suggest it is necessary.

Following traffic may get a little cross sometimes – they have paid a lot of money for a machine which is capable of exceeding all current speed limits...and provably capable of killing people.



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ELMSWELL FIRE STATION

Hello from everyone at Elmswell Fire Station.

We are a team of nine on-call firefighters who, as trained firefighters are called into service when we are needed.

In case you were wondering what's happening to our base in School Road, we are having some essential maintenance work done to our roof which will be ongoing for the next couple of months.

There will be no impact to our emergency response as we have temporarily relocated to Goldstar Transport in Woolpit. They have very kindly accommodated our fire engine and all of our equipment, allowing us to provide the cover we always have at Elmswell. We are all very grateful for the generous hospitality that they have extended to us.

Finally if you are interested in becoming an on-call firefighter, the good news is that we are currently recruiting! If you ever want an informal chat about the job or anything about the station, please feel free to contact me using the email address below.

FF Mark Proctor
mark.proctor@suffolk.gov



WESLEY UKULELE BAND

The highlight of last month had to be Elmswell's Apple Day even though the weather did its best to, quite literally dampen our spirits, which it completely and totally failed to do. We managed to do 2 sessions, the first in the rain in 2 adjacent tents, which proved challenging, and another once the rain had finally stopped. We had a great time and, who knows, we might get invited back next year? We were delighted to be featured on last month's cover with a picture of the second session featuring Keith 'The King' Pybus, doing his tiny Elvis crust! If you didn't come along, and I imagine the weather made the decision for most, give it some serious thought next year.

With our numbers steadily going up, we are beginning to find ourselves a little cramped at our week Wesley practice sessions. Amazingly we will have to start an form of 'team selection' for certain gigs where space is at a premium. On Wednesdays we have to leave as much space as possible for the extra customers who come along to have their coffee and conversation ruined



Kevin, leading from the front like all good leaders



Maggie and Carol taking a well-earned break in the Tea Tent

by our 'enthusiastic' efforts to improve our craft. It is where we try out new songs which we don't always get right the first time. (my entry for 'Biggest Understatement of All Time' award!)

The pub gigs at the Elmswell Tavern are gradually picking up more and more regular fans. Not a spectacular rise but very gratifying none-the-less. The date for your diary for this month is Saturday 12th, 7pm start.

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



We will remember them



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Hello from St John's Church

October was a time of thanksgiving at St John's. We began the month with a lovely celebration of Harvest, thanking the Lord God for his goodness to us. The service was followed with a time of fellowship over lunch. We were pleased to pass on to the Stowmarket and Area foodbank a huge haul of food and other items, which we pray will be of immense value to many struggling during this cost of living crisis. The following day, we were delighted to welcome the school for their own celebration of Harvest.

Other October highlights included baptisms, a men's gathering at the Tavern, wonderful times of worship together and Variety & Spice. Variety & Spice is always an enjoyable evening of entertainment – comedy, music, poetry and some delicious drinks and nibbles.

November is a time to remember at St John's. On Saturday, 5 November at 3:00pm there is a special service open to anyone who wishes to come and light a candle in remembrance of a loved one. Our Remembrance Sunday Service is on 13 November at 10:30am, when we remember all those who have given so much in the service of their country. Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." And he himself demonstrated this love as he laid down his life for us by dying on a wooden cross. On 20 November, we remember how Christ is the promised, everlasting King from God. This November, let's remember.

At the end of the month, the Advent season begins. This is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus – both his first coming, celebrated at Christmas, and his return. Jesus is the light of the world and, as part of our Advent celebrations, our first family service in December will be a Christingle Service. Come and see how an

orange, red ribbon, sweets, cocktail sticks and a candle can be used to sum up why God sent his only Son into the world.

St John's is a welcoming community of all ages. Do come along to join us on a Sunday at 10:30am. We would love to get to know over a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Upcoming Dates:

Sat 5 Nov 3:00pm

Time to Remember

Sun 6 Nov 9:00am

Holy Communion (spoken service)

Sun 6 Nov 10:30pm

Family Service

Sun 6 Nov 3:00pm

Confirmation Service with Bishop Mike

Sun 13 Nov 10:30am

Remembrance Sunday

Sun 20 Nov 10:30am

Sunday Worship followed by Holy Communion

Sun 27 Nov 10:30am

Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 4 Nov 9:00am

Holy Communion (spoken service)

Sun 4 Nov 10:30pm

Family Service - Christingle

Every Saturday:

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

We live stream most of the 10:30am services on our Facebook page (also available on our main web site later that day).

Rector: Peter Goodridge

Email: elmswellrector@gmail.com

Tel: 01359 240512

Web site: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell

YouTube: accessed via our website home page

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 winter months the lights will be on between 5.30 p.m. and midnight.

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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

Your support is much appreciated.

All bookings / payments to :-

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NOVEMBER 2022 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 in memory of Jim Baker (1933-2009), on the anniversary of his death.
- 5 treasured memories of our much loved son, Matthew J. Pollen. 22.10.1977 - 05.11.2019. "Seven years passed and our thoughts are with you each and every day". With our love from Mum and Dad. xx.
- 6 in loving memory of Dorothy May Nunn.
- 11 in loving memory of Ena May Clover.
- 12 in loving memory of Thomas Henry Manning.
- 12 in loving memory of David Begg. "Leaving us one year ago we miss you so much". Brenda, Richard and Graham.
- 13 in loving memory of Natasha Smith on her Birthday.
- 13 Remembrance Sunday.
- 15 David Handyside - remembered with so much love. Very special to all his family and many friends. "God Bless".
- 20 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.



21 in loving memory of a dear sister, Margery Bendall. "Remembered with love". From Audrey, John & family.

26 in loving memory of a dear Mum, Margery Cammell. "Always in our thoughts". From Audrey, John & family.

28 in memory of Evelyn Clark.



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Each week in our services we offer prayers of intercession where we pray for the world around us, for our government, for victims of murder and crime, for the work of the NHS, for students young and old, for victims of natural disasters. At the moment our prayers are needed for some resolution to the present political turmoil we are enduring following the latest mini budgets and government u-turns that have caused the financial uncertainty we are all facing.

On the **7th November** our **Ladies Friendship Group** meet at the church at 2pm for an afternoon of making candle table decorations, contact Margaret on 01359 241541 for more information about our Ladies Group it is open to all not just attendees of our services so if you are new

to the village and would like to meet a group of friendly ladies do contact Margaret, you will be made most welcome.

On **Thursday 10th November** our **Food and Friends Lunch** takes place at midday at the church once again our lunches are open to all the older folk of our community not just people who worship with us, contact Jackie on 01359 245918 for any more information you might need.

During November our 10.30 AM services will be led by:-

6th November
Rev Norman Tharby (inc Communion)

13th November
Kevin Moore

20th November
TBA

27th November
Rev Norman Tharby

4th December
Rev Norman Tharby (inc Communion)

As ever we guarantee a warm and friendly welcome to anyone joining us for the first time at any of our services or activities for more information about us contact Tony on 01359 241541 or go to our website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk

Dave

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MASS TIMES:

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

Sundays – 8.30am & 10.15am
Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket IP14 1AW

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

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the

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

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD



ElmsWild
Crafty Christmas
 Natural gifts and decorations to
 buy plus some to make yourself
 Suitable for all ages
Saturday 3rd December
 10.00-12.30
Wesley Coffee Shop
 Drop in any time – everyone
 welcome!

ElmsWild Crafty Christmas

Saturday 3rd December

The clocks have gone back, the evenings are drawing in and holly berries are on the trees – it's time to start thinking about Christmas! This year we are offering the chance to make your own Christmas gifts and decorations, using natural materials from our own woodland. You can make some lovely wreaths using colourful berries, leaves and cones. And the best bit is that once the festivities are over all the vegetation can be put on the compost, leaving the willow hoop to make another beautiful wreath next year. All natural materials, with no plastic! There will be lots of other craft ideas, too – snowmen, Christmas trees, reindeer, stars. As well as having a go at crafting your own decorations, there will be an opportunity to buy some of the products we've made from Lukeswood – decorations for your home, nature-inspired gifts and stocking fillers with a difference! Do come and join us at Wesley Coffee Shop on Saturday 3rd December, 10.00-12.30. Fun and good cheer for all ages – drop in any time. Or if you are meeting up for a coffee at Wesley, do come and give us a look. If you only have a few minutes to spare, come and peruse our sale table for ready-made wreaths, decorations and gifts. We will provide all the tools and materials and will be on hand to help with the making. All you need to bring is your imagination!

Willow cutting morning

Saturday 14th January

Winter is when we cut and harvest the willow at Lukeswood. Perhaps you came to our willow cutting morning last year, when lots of people came along to help and to take away bundles of willow for their own garden or craft projects? Some of our willow wands are 10-15ft long, so can be used for many inventive garden structures. Or perhaps you will have been inspired by using Lukeswood willow to make some lovely decorations at our Crafty Christmas morning and would like to have your own willow for more craft projects at home. This year's crop will be cut on Saturday 14th January and everyone is invited to come and join us. All helpers are welcome to take home some bundles. We can provide some loppers or secateurs, but please bring a pair if you have them. Stout gloves, boots and warm clothing are recommended. Hot drinks and biscuits will be available to keep everyone cheerful and energetic. Lukeswood, Saturday 14th January, 9.30-12.30. Everyone welcome!

Mary Feeny
 info@elmswild.org.uk
 241901




WILLOW CUTTING

Lukeswood

Saturday

14 January 2023

9.30-12.30



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CITIZENS ADVICE

The cost of things just keeps going up. The food shop doesn't stretch as far and my bills just keep getting higher. I've made cutbacks and, at the moment, I'm just about managing but I'm really worried about how I'll cope as it starts getting colder. What should I do?

You're not alone in struggling with rising costs, but it's important to know there is support available.

If you're finding it hard to stay on top of bills, make sure you know what money you've got coming in and out each month. Citizens Advice has an online budgeting tool that can help with this - visit citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money to find this tool and more.

It's also worth finding out if you're eligible for any benefits or support with your energy and living costs. On the Citizens Advice website citizensadvice.org.uk there's a benefits calculator, advice on how to reduce living costs and information on other ways to increase your income.

The good news is there is help with rising energy bills. From 1 October 2022, there's a limit on gas and electricity prices for most households - this is called the Energy Price Guarantee and will be in place for two years.

From October you'll also get £400 off your electricity bill. This is called the Energy Bills Support Scheme.

You don't need to do anything to get the money and you won't have to pay it back. The money will be paid in six instalments, you'll get £66 in October and November followed by £67 in December, January, February and March.

You should automatically receive the energy discount if you pay by direct debit, standard credit or payment card.

If you have a prepayment meter that isn't a smart meter, you'll get the discount via vouchers or as an automatic credit when you top up at your usual top-up point. Your supplier will let you know how they will issue it.

If you have a smart prepayment meter, the credit should be automatically added to your meter.

If you can't pay your bills, speak to your energy supplier as they have a responsibility to help you come up with a solution.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. For more information and our opening hours go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk.

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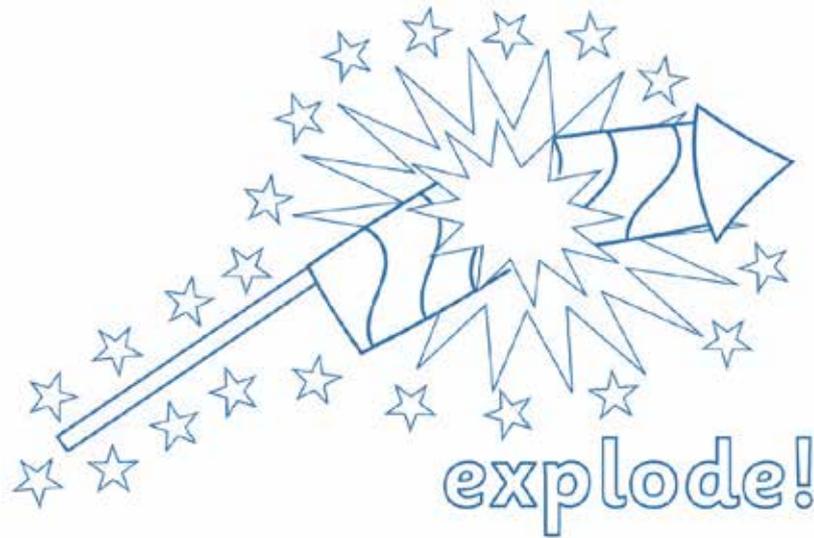
Elmswell's monthly footpath walks take in footpaths around and about the village...4 miles maximum – easy walking, everyone welcome, dogs on leads please .

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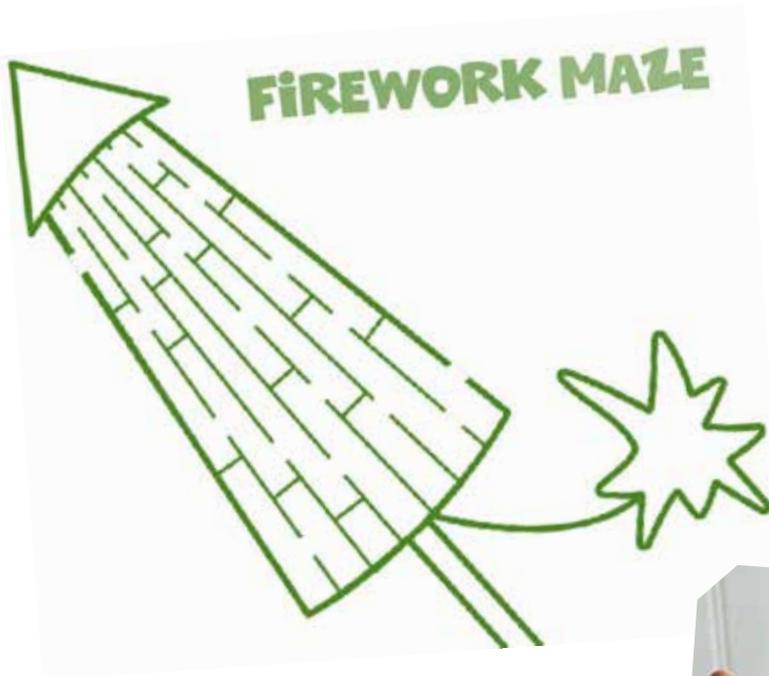
Firework Night!

Can you colour in the firework? Send your final creations to us on Instagram @street_farm



Can you make the firework spark by sending the fire through the maze?

Did you know many fireworks are named after different types of flowers?



Lets Make Chocolate Sparklers!

Make your very own firework treat by covering breadsticks in melted chocolate and sprinkles. Let set in the fridge and enjoy as a special treat on bonfire night! You could even use white chocolate and food colours to make them extra colourful!



Make your own firework tuff tray!

You will need:

- A Tray
- Flour or icing sugar
- Powder paint / glitter / Chalks
- Paint brush
- Number/Letter moulds

Now get creative! Start with your base white layer and add the colour in! You can then use your paintbrush to make marks in the tray using your letter/number moulds for guidance.

Did you know If you see fireworks in your dreams, it is thought you have sparked your creativity and will have lots of great ideas!

Did you know The largest rocket firework ever produced weighed 13kg!

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FIRST TEAM REPORT

It has not been an easy month for The First Team. Despite making several quality signings a shortage of player availability has given us too few options off the bench. At that crucial time when the opposition are making their fourth or fifth substitution to replace tired legs, we have been left rueing our lack of alternatives.

Against Saxmundham Sports we had to start a couple of reserve players (thanks to them for stepping up) and had only one body on the bench to Saxmundham's five. They ended up 4-0 winners. MOTM went to Tom Morgan.

We faced Saxmundham again two weeks later in the cup. Although we again had one sub to their five, we had a much stronger starting line-up and went down narrowly losing 2-1. Goal from Will Hayden. MOTM Matt McComb.

Derby day brought a very strong Thurston side to The Blackbourne, who featured several Elmswell lads and an ex-manager in their squad. We were feeling hopeful having had 30 players available between our Firsts and Reserves the night before, but a mix of misfortune left both squads heavily depleted. Thurston dominated. Our Captain, Oliver Chapman, made a string of fine saves earning him MOTM. Despite his heroics the visitors romped away with it in the final stages, winning 6-0. A hard defeat to swallow from local rivals but we'll pick ourselves up to host bottom side Copelstonians next week.

UPCOMING FIRST TEAM FIXTURES

- 05/11 - Kirton Athletic v Elmswell - Div 2
- 12/11 - Elmswell v Bardwell Sports - Div 2 @ The BLACKBOURNE
- 19/11 - Stanton v Elmswell - Junior Cup
- 03/12 - Elmswell v Kirton Athletic - Div 2 @ The BLACKBOURNE



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RESERVES REPORT

Back on the October 1st we travelled to Capel Plough when the A14 was closed. After a massive diversion and our keeper suffering a double blow-out we did not get the best pre-match warm up. We started badly and conceded almost straight away. Our confidence shaken, we failed to do the basics and gave away another before half time. We rallied second half and managed to score two ourselves through Jake Fisher and Luke Catchpole but Capel's long balls and speed also provided them with another two goals. Final score 4-2. MOTM Jason Brown.

Hadleigh Brettsiders were sitting top of the league when then came to The Blackbourne. This did not stop Elmswell top-scorer, Will Hayden, scoring first and getting a first half hat-trick. Sadly, Hadleigh showed their class and superior fitness and slowly wore us down and deservedly edged ahead to win the game 5-2. MOTM Will Hayden.

Saxmundham is a long way to go to lose a game of football. Fortunately, we won 5-0. The rampant Fisher, keen to match last year's hat-trick in this fixture, bagged a brace. Catchpole scored a bizarre one-on-one and a sublime volley from distance. To round it off, captain, Kurt Bevan, scored his biannual goal from a corner. Ieuen Kidd was MOTM.

A local derby against bogey side, Bacton, ends the report. A handful of late call offs left us short. The game had a lot of incidents but little quality. In a topsey-turvy game, we gave away three soft goals and missed some one-on-ones. We did improve second half. Fisher was scorer and then provider, as his freekick was met some way out at the back post for Jon Macro to guide his header looping back perfectly into the far top hand corner. Macro was MOTM for is defensive performance despite admitting his goal was a total fluke. They say 'Never kick a man when he's down.', so we won't say too much about Ally Clarke's expensive sending off in the dying minutes.

UPCOMING RESERVE FIXTURES

- 05/11 - Elmswell Res v Sporting 87 'A' - Primary Cup @ The BLACKBOURNE
- 12/11 - Samuels v Elmswell Res - Div 6
- 19/11 - Elmswell Res v Eye Saints - Div 6 @ The BLACKBOURNE
- 26/11 - Elmswell Res v Benhall St Mary Res - Reserve Cup @ The BLACKBOURNE



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ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

The logical thing to have done would have been to do the season's review last month at the end of the Bowls season but, instead, I let myself get side-tracked by our Presentation night. I wanted to be as 'current' as I could but, with monthly reports like these, it is simply impossible. Besides which, what has logic ever done for us?

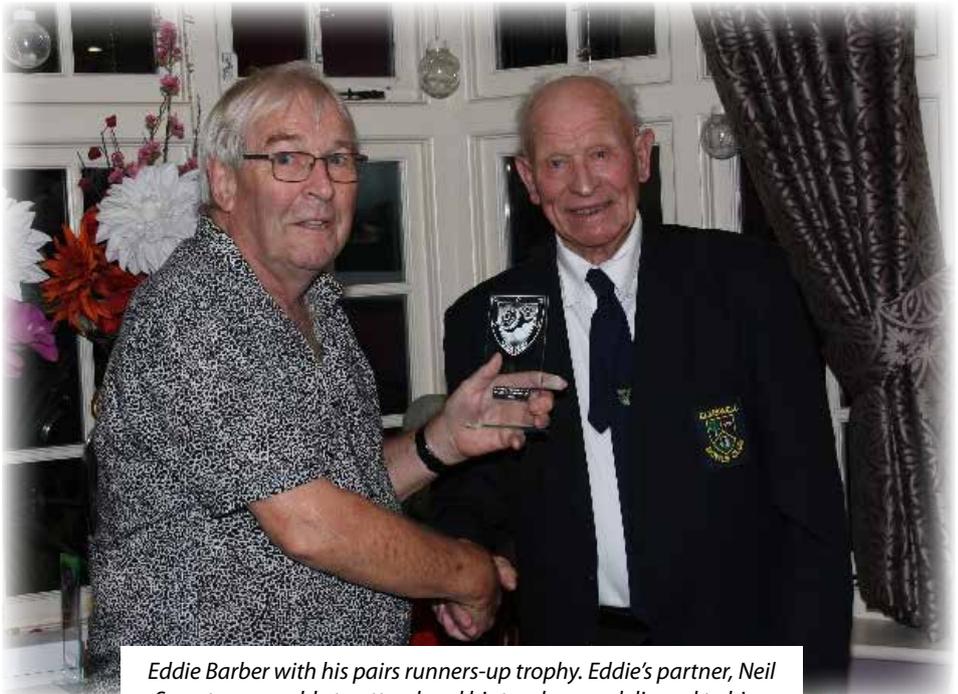
Dick Burch's Thursday evening team almost came second with their Division 2 side. Had they beaten Walsham in their last match of the season, they would have and maybe gained promotion to Div 1. They didn't but, to compound the disappointment, also lost third place to Cony Weston Swans, who won away to G.W. Stanisforth, the Thetford team in their last match to leapfrog over us. Still, fourth place is not bad at all and we would probably have had an unhappy time in Division 1 anyway. The Monday team would readily agree, I'm sure, not having found their feet until the final few matches of the season when a spate of victories gave them a degree of satisfaction if not respectability. So the Thursday team won't be going up but whether the Monday team goes down is not yet clear. If we lose any more teams, and the Thetford team of G.W. Stanisforth is hanging in the balance, then we might have to suffer another season of indignity unless we are able to carry on next year as we finished this year. Our Tuesday evening Area D team, the weird one that plays home and away simultaneously, had a reasonably successful season finishing just about mid-table having gained promotion last season. This month's photos carry on from last month's winners featuring the runners-up

Peter Edmonds, E.F.B.C.
07860 395720

edmondspeterj@gmail.com



Glyn Baker receiving his Singles Runners-up trophy



Eddie Barber with his pairs runners-up trophy. Eddie's partner, Neil Smart was unable to attend and his trophy was delivered to him.

ELMSWELL CRICKET CLUB – NEW SEASON 2023

Recently Elmswell Cricket Club held their AGM at the Wesley Hall. Attended by several current players and past players, a good attendance has seen a level of commitment to playing again next year in Division 5 of the Sunday Hunts County League.

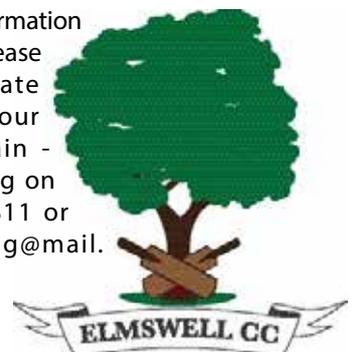
We need to grow the club, we remain committed to providing a welcome environment to playing recreational Sunday cricket throughout the Summer, all games are played in good spirit and to a reasonable standard with a strong emphasis on team spirit and enjoying the game.

We are always keen to want new players, whether recently moving to the village and wanting to experience "village cricket" or maybe starting out playing or returning to the game, we would be pleased to hear from you.

It is anticipated that we should be undertaking some winter nets towards the end of January 2023 and would welcome anybody interested in playing or joining the club. On a similar basis, playing the game is not the only involvement with the club, we would also be keen to hear from

anybody who would be interested in being groundsman assistant, scorer or umpire, or even to help organise club teas.

For more information or details, please don't hesitate to contact our Club Captain - Ben Whatling on 07760 174811 or benwhatling@mail.com



FOOTPATH WALK



FOOTPATH WALK SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER

A clear, bright autumnal Sunday morning beckoned 13 souls and 2 dogs towards the October footpath walk.

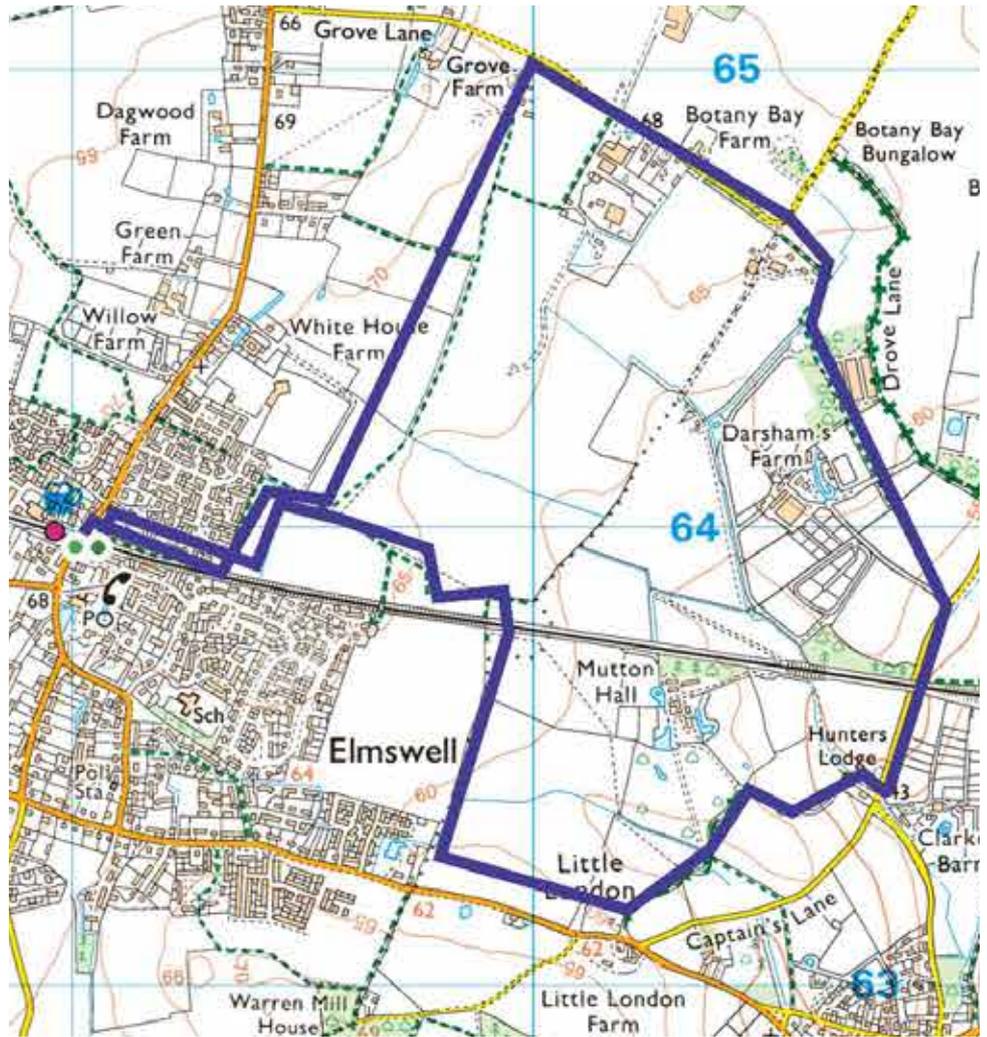
The party took FP10 adjacent to the Pharmacy and progressed parallel to the railway, past the new Borley Green development turning right and left on to FPs 9 & 6.

Along this part of the route the group crossed the new footbridge installed by Suffolk County Council. Damage to the existing footbridge was reported to SCC by the Footpath Officer on 21st September and was replaced in its entirety by the time of this village walk, just a little over 3 weeks. Credit where credit's due.

Turning right on to Grove Lane we passed Botany Bay Farm on the left and then straight on to a wooded footpath. This led us on past Darsham's Farm then across open fields to Captains Lane where we turned right.

After about 300m we turned right into the 'set aside' taking advantage of the Mutton Hall key kindly purchased for the use of the group by the Elmswell Amenities Association.

We continued on past Hunters Lodge into the attractive wooded area behind and then back into Mutton Hall heading down to the rear of Little London, turning right again and running parallel to Wetherden Road.



Right again following the hedge line north up to and crossing the railway line, on to FP9 and finding our way back to Crown Mill via FP10.

A delightful amble of approximately 4.3 miles in 1 hour 51 minutes (an average speed of 2.3 miles per hour) thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer





A14 FROM J47A HAUGHLEY TO J49 TOTHILL, 2023

We will be carrying out work to rebuild the A14 road's carriageway between Junction 47a Haughley to Junction 49 Tothill. This work is due to start in February 2023.

During the roadworks we will use a contraflow. A contraflow is when the road is shut in one direction and traffic is then moved over to drive on the other side of the road to share the remaining carriageway. This provides us with a clear working area that means we can work more quickly and safely.

We did road surveys from March to May 2022 so we could better understand what needs to be done when we reconstruct the road.

During construction we're going to set up a free SMS alerts service that'll be used to warn recipients of incidents on the A14 that will affect morning or evening peak time travel, as well as general scheme updates. Details on how to sign up for this service will follow in the New Year.

Benefits

Our repairs will help improve the safety of the road surface, but it will also provide a smoother and quieter journey for road users. Rather than repairing the potholes and cracking, the whole carriageway will be reconstructed and re-laid to ensure a smoother and safer ride. Once complete, we expect the life of the road surface to be extended by up to 40 more years, with fewer future closures for maintenance repairs, meaning more reliable journeys for road users.

Road closures between Junction 47 Haughley to Junction 49 Tothill

To do our work, we will first need to construct the contraflow. To build this safely, we will need to close the A14 between Junction 43 at Bury St. Edmunds to Junction 51 at Needham Market for a couple of weeks. These full road closures will happen overnight when there is less traffic and the road will only be closed if absolutely needed. We will give advance notice before we close the road.

Once the contraflow is constructed, the road will be reduced to one lane in both directions as we work. The speed limit through the contraflow section will be reduced to 50mph in order to ensure the safety of our workers and the travelling public.

A contraflow allows us to keep the A14 open during the reconstruction of the road. There will be delays, particularly through the morning and evening peak periods,



Residents visit the recent National Highways Roadshow at Wesley to learn more.

during the roadworks. We're sorry for any inconvenience and delays to your journey.

We appreciate that some of the excavation work may be noisy for local residents, and we'll do our best to minimise any disturbances.

Diversion route

As well as full road closures required for setting up the contraflow at the start of the work, we will also need to switch the traffic onto the opposite carriageway half-way through our project.

When the A14 is closed a signed diversion will be in place.

For eastbound traffic exit the A14 at junction 43 and take the A143 towards Diss and then the A140 towards Ipswich to re-join the A14 at J51.

For westbound traffic it is the reverse. The diversion should add about 40 minutes to your normal journey.

Please allow extra time.



ELMSWELL POOR'S LAND CHARITY

APPLICATION FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT 2022

The Elmswell Poor's Land Charity is pleased to issue a Christmas Monetary Gift to residents in the village who meet the criteria below. Last year eligible applicants received vouchers to the value of £80.00 to be spent in Elmswell shops.

This year the gift will be in the form of Co-op gift cards which can be used in any East of England Co-operative Group food store within the UK. Individual or multiple cards, each of fixed value may be used for in-store purchases in full or part payment for goods (excluding lottery, fuel or third party concession products or services) at any time whilst the card is valid. You must present the gift card at the checkout. No change can be given from the card or the card exchanged for cash. At present the card cannot be used to shop online.

To be eligible to receive a gift, any Elmswell resident must

- Have lived in Elmswell continuously for the last 3 years
- Be in receipt of Pension Credit or eligible to receive Pension Credit or be experiencing hardship

Should anyone require further details regarding their eligibility for Pension Credit, please contact the Citizens' Advice Bureau, 5 Milton Road, Stowmarket on 01449 676060 or visit midsuffolkcab.org.uk.

If you are eligible and wish to apply, please complete the form below and send to Elmswell Poor's Land Charity, c/o The Rectory, Church Road, Elmswell IP30 9DY by 25 Nov 2022

Please Note

- Only one application per household
- All information given is held in confidence

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Address:

Age:

Have you lived in Elmswell continuously for the last 3 years? YES / NO

Are you in receipt of or eligible for Pension Credit? YES / NO

If you are experiencing other forms of hardship please provide details here & explain how you will be able to prove it :

.....

.....

.....

Signed: Date:



The Parish Council meets at least once each month, excluding August, although extraordinary meetings can be called as required at any time. The October meeting with all 11 councillors present, together with BMSDC Ward Member Cllr Helen Geake, 8 members of the public and the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow took place at Blackbourne on Monday 17th.

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 ratified, are available online 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 September 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 Planning application for the petrol station and restaurants on the A14 / A1088 roundabout to which the Parish Council had objected had been discussed by Mid Suffolk on 28th September but that a decision is held over whilst extra professional advice is sought on both highways and heritage issues.

They also highlighted the following:

- There will be a technical consultation on the draft Babergh and Mid Suffolk Housing Land Supply Statements in the next few days. Indicatively, the draft housing land supply figures are 7 years for Babergh and 10.5 years for Mid Suffolk
- The District Council Cabinet approved a Joint Car Parking Strategy which aims to ensure that everyone has access to sufficient, good quality, safe and welcoming car parking opportunities, to make a real difference to how we plan for the future, to support economic growth opportunities and to reduce the impact of our lives on the environment. Unfortunately, the strategy has no provisions for discouraging use of the private car or improving the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. The data collected for the study showed that around 50% of car trips to council owned car parks were of less than 1.5 miles. Many consider that the impact on the environment would be reduced by using a bus, a cycle or walking.
- Cabinet also considered proposals to amend the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. They agreed to consult on a scheme to increase the council tax reduction for eligible household from 95% to 100%. Currently households who receive benefits such as Universal Credit have reduced council tax bills depending on the amount of benefit they receive; benefits may change from one month to the next and MSDC is then required to send a new council tax bill. Many

households enter arrears and the cost of collecting arrears is often greater than the arrears themselves.

- A Task and Finish Group of six MSDC Councillors has commenced work on planning how best to serve our residents with the two electric minibuses which are to be acquired by MSDC as a result of a Green and Liberal Democrat proposed budget amendment.
- Locality Budget funds held by the two Ward Members are still available and they would welcome applications from any local club or organisation in need of funding towards the cost of a local project.

Suffolk County Council

Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report confirming that Suffolk County Council has let it be known that it has started discussions with Government to become an investment zone as part of the new PM's growth and investment strategy. At present it is not known how these zones will operate, or how they fit with the existing Freeport designation which covers Felixstowe and Harwich docks, and includes other sites such as Gateway 14 near Stowmarket. Our political group has gone on record in the media that we are opposed to the idea since the Government says it wants to remove environmental regulations and some planning controls within these zones.

The Report also gave details of Warm Homes Suffolk which offers expert advice on reducing energy bills and usage, as well as benefits available during this crisis. The fund is open to homeowners, renters, and landlords and will target homes that need insulating and more efficient heating via www.warmhomessuffolk.org, or by telephone at 03456 037 686.

Meanwhile, the first delivery of 16 Renault Zoe electric vehicles (EVs) will be arriving in November, as the Council begins its programme to upgrade all existing pool cars. This is part of the Council's work to deliver on its climate emergency declaration and protect Suffolk's environment. Ten more EVs will arrive

in April 2023. The aim is to completely electrify the fleet by 2024.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on notification of election costs from Mid Suffolk as a reminder that all town & parish councils go to the polls on Thursday 4th May next year. The report suggested that this is often the time for pulling together some of the issues and projects which might be tackled by a new administration highlighting the sort of benefits that might accrue from Council's activity. Schemes which have attracted some councillor interest recently include:

- a collaborative scheme to provide a local mini bus/ taxi service;
- a 'Civics' initiative to tidy up our streets...newer, larger litter bins, traffic 'gates' on entrance routes in, our own badged-up street signs etc;
- the possibility of a wind turbine on the new boundary at Blackbourne;
- a community heating scheme on the Tavern site to include the proposed new community housing;
- battery storage to the PV solar panels at Blackbourne;
- the development of recreation / play provision for older age groups on the new 6 acres of amenity land at Blackbourne;
- the sorting / cataloguing of the material deposited with the Village Archive;
- refreshing the tired original Blackbourne building including tiling of toilets, sound baffles to the Chamberlayne hall, new DDA compliant entrance door
- extending car park at Blackbourne to the bowls pavilion (50% more spaces) and replace the bowls pavilion with a multi-user changing room releasing the existing changing rooms in the main building as letting spaces;
- continuing with road safety initiatives..

The Report also listed recently sanctioned repairs by SCC to street lights which are

reported by residents or identified by SCC as part of their inspection regime to need repair. The expenditure involved in the current tranche of works is:

Unit 65 outside 34 Eastern Way
£497.00

Unit 33 outside 11 School Avenue
£600.00 & possible new bracket adds
£1050.00

Unit 27 at the junction of
£1,650 if UKPN allow the work

School Rd & Hawk End Lane
Otherwise remove it or replace with a new column at cost to be determined and expenditure authorised

Planning Appeal

The Clerk reported that the Appeal against Mid Suffolk's refusal of Planning permission for 19 houses at Grove Lane / Ashfield Road is to be held on line on 29th November and that he would re-present Council's objections.

Extra land at Blackbourne

The Meeting agreed that the Settlement Deed tabled in relation to the Council's dispute with Matthew Homes Ltd, the developers of 106 houses at Ashfield Road and abutting Blackbourne, should be amended to incorporate a 1-year warranty period against land settlement. The Clerk undertook to instruct the Council's solicitor accordingly.

Planning results

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

DC/22/04185 Erection of porch extension... The Lilacs, Station Road
GRANTED EPC did not comment

DC/22/04319 Erection of two storey side extension... Richmond Cottage, Rose Lane
GRANTED EPC Supported

DC/22/04042 Variation of Conditions... replace approved house with bungalow Loriks, Ashfield Road
GRANTED EPC did not comment

Planning applications

The Meeting discussed the following 2 Planning applications forwarded for comment by MSDC, the Planning Authority:

DC/22/04909 Change of use of land and buildings from scaffolding business to scaffolding / mobile plant / vehicular hire business at Lawn Farm, Warren Lane, Woolpit

Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons;

The grafting-on of 2 further businesses operating from this site will inevitably generate more traffic. The nature of these enterprises is likely to mean that the profile of this traffic is radically different from that currently servicing the existing scaffolding operation which largely comprises lorries

above the 7.5 t. weight limit and thus currently prohibited from using Warren Lane in Elmswell as an access to A14 westbound. This single-track lane will, therefore, have to take a considerable increase in vehicle movements related to the proposed vehicle hire and mobile plant operations.

The recent development of the adjacent land for industrial use has already imposed a heavy burden on the immediate highway network, and in particular Warren Lane, Elmswell. The Applicant suggests that the increase related to this proposal would be insignificant. As suggested, the very different nature of the traffic generated should this proposal succeed would have a greater and more detrimental effect in practice than that caused by the incumbent businesses which tends to be infrequent access largely by HGV units.

DC/22/04783 Erection of 4no. dwellings (following demolition of barns) at Willow Farm, Ashfield Road

Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons;

- 1 This proposal seeks to site 4 large dwellings with an aggregate 16-bedroom capacity served by a single access on a provably dangerous bend on Ashfield Road. It is a serious over-development of the site. The ensuing Development Rights further threaten the inappropriate further intensification of the built mass on this site.
- 2 The 'fall-back' position, won under a Class Q Prior Approval decision, would result in 4 units producing just 6 bedrooms which is the safer option and a preferred result.
- 3 The proposal site lies beyond the Settlement Boundary in the countryside. There is no mitigation offered against the clear Policy constraint restricting development in the countryside. The Planning Authority has a clear margin of safety over and above the required 5-year supply of land allocated for building and there is no reason for this application to breach the limitation requiring development to be Plan-led rather than at the ad hoc whim of those seeking development.
- 4 Elmswell has a very adequate supply of recently built-out and currently-emerging homes to satisfy any perceived need for community vitality or economic benefit. A further 4 large houses in the countryside requiring private car access to reach village amenities add nothing of value. Rather, as unplanned development, this proposal seeks to impose further strains on the village's stretched infrastructure, notably in terms of education.

Internal audit by Councillors

Council is subject to 2 external audits each year and, half-way between the two, it undertakes a check on its internal controls and financial management carried out by 2 Members elected to do so following a suggested inspection framework which has been formally agreed by full Council as guidance re the minimum level of audit required. This year, Cllrs David Barker and Peter Hancock were given free access to any and all Council paperwork both in hard copy and in digital format. Their written report on the findings was before Council for noting and for determination of any action recommended. Effectively, the Clerk's office was given a clean bill of health with some suggestions as to minor amendments to procedures.

Charity donations

Each year, at the October meeting, the Council considers applications which have been made over the previous 12 months for grant aid from charitable bodies based outside of the village. The Meeting duly agreed to grant £15.00 to each of: Headway, The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, EACH, St Edmundsbury Newstalk, Fresh Start and BSEVC.

Food Bank

The Meeting noted that the Council is working with St John's Church, the Elmswell Community Enterprise Group and other volunteers to provide a twice-weekly opportunity for individuals and families from the village to have access to food and other necessities donated from the wider community to help address the steep and sudden rise in the cost of living. The facility is currently available at the Elmswell Tavern on Monday and Friday mornings between 10.00am and 1.00pm.

Next meeting

It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting was scheduled for Monday 21st November 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.cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.





We will remember...

The Elmswell Cemetery has 2 war graves remembering the service and sacrifice of Private H Howard of the 59th Australian Infantry and of Air Mechanic W Pyke of the Royal Flying Corps.

At the suggestion of a resident, the Council has recently installed a plaque marking the fact that the War Graves are there.

Meanwhile, the village sign at Crown Mill is also, courtesy of the Royal British Legion, marking the Remembrance.



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.

Nov 21st	Dec 19th	Jan 16th	Feb 20th	Mar 20th
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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 & Wednesdays 9.00am – 4.00pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.00am – 12.00 noon
and other times by arrangement.

clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk
Tel. 244134 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		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Bingo at Blackbourne	Brian Hawes		07761 125093
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	Ben Whatling (Captain)	benwhatling@mail.com	07760 174811
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	Chris Edmonds	edddd101@gmail.com	
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@littleeelms.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	
Royal British Legion	Norman Plumpton (Biff)	nplumpton@aol.com	07707 524722
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	Wayne	wsast@hotmail.co.uk	

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 - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

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
- 10 Food (n) Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 10 Over 55's Club Hot Dogs Followed by Bingo
- 24 Over 55's Club Entertainment by Jubilee Singers Open evening
- 25 Bingo at Blackbourne with bar.

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.
- 8 Food (n) Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 8 Over 55's club Xmas Bingo
- 10 Charity Christmas Concert by the Edmund Octet & Friends at Wesley, 6.30 in aid of Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust Tickets £10.00 01284 719236
- 13 Elmswell WI, 7.30pm at the Wesley. Christmas Party
- 16 Bingo at Blackbourne with bar.
- 17 Over 55's Xmas Party Home Farm Catering and Music by Brian Mann

January 2023

- 12 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Simon Millyard: Trinity House Lighthouses

- 12 Food (n) Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 27 Bingo at Blackbourne with bar.

February 2023

- 9 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Elspeth Rushbrook: Local Survivor of "The Titanic", Violet Jessop
- 9 Food (n) Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday

March 2023

- 9 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Geoff Robinson: 18th Century Commerce in Worlingworth

April 2023

- 13 Elmswell History Group 23rd Anniversary meeting, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Miriam Stead: Halesworth's 17th Century 'Walpole Old Chapel'

STOP PRESS

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

- KARATE** with Lewis - Tuesday 4.30 - 5.45 / Friday 5.00 - 7.00 info@gtheadma.com
 - JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE** - Monday & Wednesday 6.30 - 8.30 ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com tel. 07711 680262
 - BABY & TODDLER GROUP** - Monday mornings elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com
 - BATS- badminton / table tennis / pool** at Blackbourne Friday nights 7 - 9.30 simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk
 - BOWLS** - barryhayward1902@gmail.com tel. 240951
 - GUIDES** - Monday evenings 5.00 - 8.30 elmswellguides@outlook.com
 - FOOTBALL** - shaun.pratt@btinternet.com 07494 864231
 - RAINBOWS** - elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com
 - JUNIOR FOOTBALL** - smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591
 - CUBS** Tuesdays 6.15 - 7.30 - claremariekeefe@gmail.com
 - 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
 - WI** - evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm Terry Byford bbazby@aol.com
 - WI** - afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk
 - ART CLUB** at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 - 12.00 John Welford welford955@btinternet.com
 - HISTORY GROUP** at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk
 - GARDEN CLUB** at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com
 - CARPET BOWLS** - Wednesday 7. pm at Wesley - jf.boxall@btinternet.com
 - COMPANIONS** - every other Friday 10 - 12 at Wesley - linda@abbott.plus.com
 - PILATES** - Monday & Friday mornings - 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

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: November 22nd, December 20th, January ??

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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