

'Like a friend dropping in'



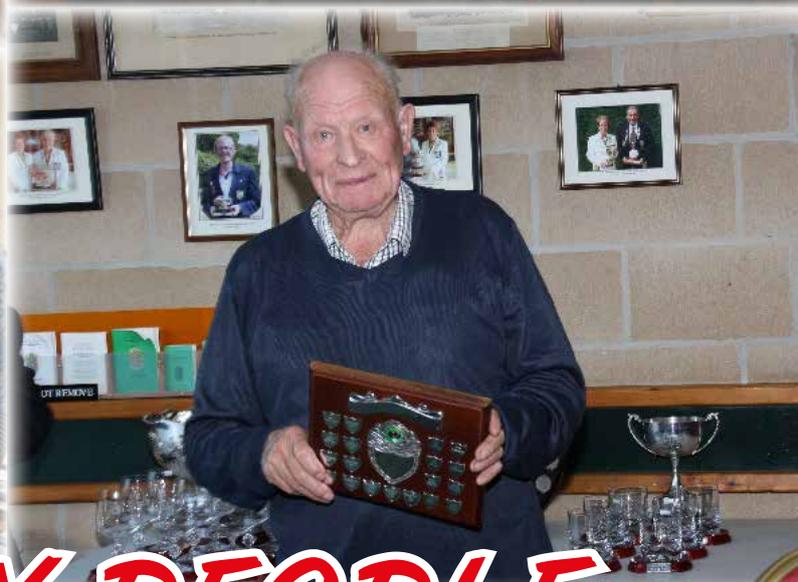
The Elmswell Newsletter



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

JANUARY 2022

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud



ORDINARY PEOPLE



... See inside and our editorial

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
2000+ copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

EAA@elmswell.org.uk



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

It is, clearly, not the best of times to establish the Elmswell Village archive. When our noble proposal is to accumulate records tracing the vibrant history of our community over time, we pick the quietest couple of years in living memory.

Of course, much has occurred. But it has been rather one-dimensional. It has hypnotised our lives and stultified our times so that we have dutifully meandered, as directed, from slide to next slide please, from variant to variant, jab to jab and, as seems likely, booster to booster.

For the couple of years since December 2019, we have, therefore, merely slipped through time, lacking the pegs on which memories and recall usually hang. A journal of our plague years would tell of no hustle and bustle, no jolly jostling, for that implies closeness and interaction. It would detail caution and cancellation rather than communion and crowding. It would touch upon the real hurts and losses and the disorientation of lacking any sense of time and place without the day-to-day markers, the regular social contacts, the occasional highlights that help map memory.

The annoying, but inescapably true, phrase, 'we are where we are', is at the heart of our emerging archive. It gives us the springboard to enquiry as to why that is and who was involved in getting us here. The past couple of years are easy, but, see above, lack historical vigour or definition. A blanket descended all those months ago and it muffles us still. So, skipping 24 months (and counting), and accepting the truism that where we are is, in fact, where we are, the Elmswell Archive exercise engages us in the process that got us here.

Some of our history is in history books. Notably the Roman bits, literally bits, dug up in 1964 revealing the site in our village of a pottery kiln dated around 200-300AD. Thence through Saxon times when, in 956, Elmswell, along with Beccles, was given as a political sweetener to the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds. We are, of course, mentioned in Duke William's Domesday Book when we numbered some 200 souls. TV history can bring much of this otherwise dry and dusty fact to glossy life. We need no formal production values, however, to add interest to our more recent past and made a good start with the village sign installed in 1995 as a colourful reminder of what informs our little corner in times past.

For some years it has been our parish council's policy to recommend names for

new streets in the village that reflect our heritage in some way. Hence the frequent use of the ancient names of the fields on which the new development stands – Cresmedow Way, Upper Crossway, Buttenhaugh Green. Sometimes there is a less direct link, as with Loch Rannoch Close, named in 2007 after Rannoch's egg packing business which occupied the site on New Road. Mr Williams, the founder of the business which later moved to Haughley Park, liked to holiday on Loch Rannoch in Scotland, gave the name to his fledgeling business and, hence to a road in Elmswell.

We have, of course, until recently, had a volunteer Village Recorder. Supported by the Parish Council, this invaluable resource has meant that the press clippings, fliers, poster and other 'ephemera' are safely kept year by year as a unique record of what's been done and by whom. There is currently a vacancy – if you can help, contact the Parish Council and help ensure that Elmswell's past is secured for the future. And, loth though we are to pluck our own ukulele, the Elmswell Newsletter has provided a comprehensive overview of the village's recent and much faster-moving history for some 30 years.

We carry on pages 14 & 15 a very small hint of the wealth of material gathered reflecting the tone and content of what is now invited. Take a look -

We have the WI who have, since their inception in 1915, been a reliable bellwether of social trends and whose good works have quietly left a mark on successive generations worldwide and including, as here, in Elmswell one of their yearbooks.



There is the photograph of the Bacon Factory at its height when it was employing 600 local people and obliquely remembered in name only as the road leading into the 190 houses which now occupy some of the site – St Edmund's Drive.



There is the Silver Jubilee Quiz Cup, first awarded in 1977, the year of its inception by the donors, Elmswell Parish Council.



There is one of the village's early Book Clubs – this one celebrating its 100th good read at The Meadows on Church Hill, the home of Mary Monk who taught at Elmswell School for many years.



There is the dedication nameplate from the old wooden seat that once perched on the bank up to St John's from Bunkers Hill – the seat long gone, but our archive can still stir the memory – as does the photograph of Bunkers Hill in the snow c 1970 when the derelict cottage still stood.



Small markers of what some may say are small lives, casting no shadow and, it is sometimes suggested, leaving no ripple. But after so many months when we have all been overshadowed and when some of the ripples have threatened to generate a tsunami we can hang on to the everyday, to the quiet history of ordinary people doing ordinary things. That covers most of us.



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

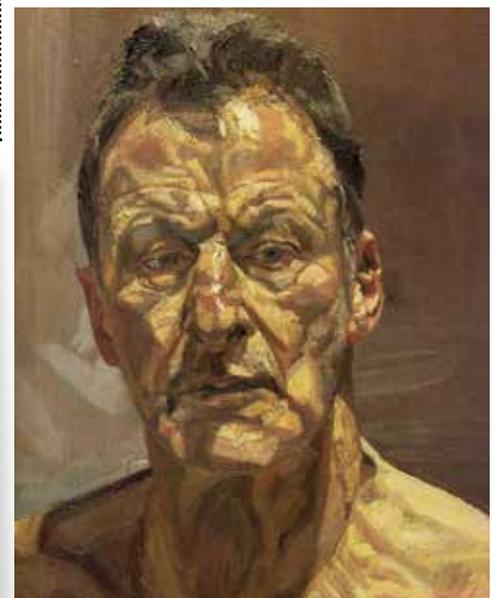
Lucian Freud was one of the foremost British portraitists of modern times. Born in Berlin in 1922 to a Jewish architect, he moved to Britain in 1933 together with other members of the Freud family, to avoid the increasing Nazi oppression of Jews. His grandfather was Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis and his brother was Clement Freud, famed as a chef, writer, broadcaster, raconteur and for several years, a Liberal MP. The brothers had an unresolved feud which lasted more than 70 years over a boyhood race, which must surely indicate a level of strong willed determination by both of them. The family settled in St Johns Wood, North London. Lucian most certainly led a full and colourful life. In the 1940s, Lucian had a three way homosexual relationship with two other young artists, Adrian Ryan and John Minton. After the breakup of this trio, he had two children by his first wife who he divorced after 4 years. His second marriage lasted 3 years but was childless. It is believed he went on to father up to 40 children! This figure is disputed. What we do know is that he had 12 children by 4 mistresses. Prolific artist, prolific womaniser! Bit of a lad really! His early schooling was at Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, a very progressive school where there was very little formal classroom activity, no discipline, no uniforms, no compulsory religious study, no games, no segregation of the sexes. After 2 years there he enrolled at Bryanston, another private school for a time, before being expelled for his disruptive behaviour.

His art training started at the Central School of Art in London, where he was known as much for his disruptive behaviour as for his artistic talent. This was followed by a stint at the East Anglian School of Art at Dedham on the Suffolk/Essex border. Alfred Munnings, the celebrated equine artist, who was born at Mendham in mid Suffolk, was a noted critic of this school. He complained about the idiosyncratic "free rein" style with dangerous racial tendencies, so when the school burnt down in 1939, he actually drove round the burning site happy to see it in ruins. Very quickly, a sprawling old country house with lots of land was found and everything was relocated to Benton End near Hadleigh. With a career lasting 60 years his style changed but he is most often associated with the raw brutal style of nude paintings of people from all walks of life and both sexes. He did many self portraits and he wasn't concerned about the shape or size of his sitters. In fact, one of his paintings entitled "Benefits Supervisor Sleeping" showing a lady of quite immense proportions sleeping naked, curled up on a chair, was sold in New York in 2008 for \$33.6 million, the highest price paid for a work by a living artist at that time. Lucian Freud died in London at the age of 88 in 2011.



Our two paintings this month are much more sedate in style! The two figures walking through a field of flowers is by Anne Finter and was done in watercolour. The delightful bunch of flowers, also in watercolour, is by Ann Smith copied from a book entitled 'Working with Watercolour'. Neither of them at all like the works of Lucian Freud!

*John Welford
01359 240166*



I never think about my style but just try and make my pictures look believable.

Lucian Freud

PARK GARAGE SERVICES

Units 1-2, Station Rd Industrial Estate, Station Rd, Elmswell, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 9HD.

ALL TYPES OF SERVICING - WELDING - MOT WORK - CLUTCHES - EXHAUSTS - SHOCKS
AIR CONDITIONING - TYRES - COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS - BATTERIES - CAMBELTS - BRAKES



Your LOCAL GARAGE with over 20 years experience servicing and repairing all makes and models.

TEL: 01359 242479 OR VISIT: WWW.PARKGARAGESERVICES.CO.UK

Hicks TV & Audio Solutions

(Formerly BV Hicks Ltd)

Are you having trouble setting up or operating your TV / Audio or DVD?
Has your equipment stopped working?
Does your TV need a re-tune?

Help is at hand - Call Toby Hicks
01449 771991 / 07968 686035

**NEW DOMESTIC
APPLIANCES AND
TV PRODUCTS SUPPLIED**



Residential & Commercial Cleaning Services

- Carpets
- Upholstery
- Curtains
- Hard Floors

call Peter on 01359 241577
email: peterjedmonds@tiscali.co.uk
ServiceMaster West Suffolk
Little Acre, Ashfield Road, Elmswell IP30 9HJ

The Old Tea Room Veterinary Surgery

For a professional caring service

Tel: 01359 241 761

Station Road, Elmswell,
Bury St Edmunds, IP30 9HA

www.elmswellvets.co.uk



HAYWARDS SOLICITORS

FOR ALL YOUR FAMILY LEGAL NEEDS

We offer Fixed Fees at Competitive Rates

Telephone: (01449) 613631

email: enquiries@haywards-solicitors.co.uk

www.haywards-solicitors.co.uk

Free Car Park Available For Use By Clients.

7 - 9 TAVERN STREET, STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK IP14 1PJ



F. G. BROWN - OPTICIANS

Denmark House,
41 Bury Street,
Stowmarket

Tel:- 01449 612812/674030

As independent opticians we offer a more personalised eyecare service that you can trust for all the family including:-

Optomap retinal examination

Colorimetry

A wide range of competitively priced frames and spectacle lenses

Contact lenses

Prescription and non-prescription sunglasses

Your sight care is our priority

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON WI

Well, we made it to the end of the year. To celebrate we enjoyed a really good Christmas get together. Members were asked to wear something sparkly

and they didn't disappoint.

We enjoyed a few games of Beetle. Some members had played before but some



were Beetle "virgins". Nobody explained to me that you might never throw a six !!! A prize was awarded to the winner and one to the loser. I suspect a little bit of harmless cheating took place but never mind. The committee provided sandwiches and cakes which were set out on tiered stands at each individual table. Tea was served to each member from a trolley. It was a happy, congenial occasion. There was one special raffle



prize and the tickets were free. This lovely hamper was put together by Lesley and the winner was Stephanie.

We have no meeting in January. Our next meeting (Omicron permitting) will be on Wed. 2nd February at 2 pm. Our speaker is Alex Jarrett who will be telling us the story of Anna his grandmother, called "One Woman's Holocaust". We have tried to have this talk as close to Holocaust Memorial Day as possible (27th January). We will also begin our monthly competitions once more. February's will be "Your favourite scarf"

Have a very healthy and peaceful New Year.
Maureen Davis

Maureen Davis



ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

A happy and healthy New Year is wished to you all.

No doubt many of those of us with gardens are already thinking about the year ahead. As I write this article I'm wondering what the weather will be like in mid January. Perhaps some of you will be hoping for snow. What always astounds me is just how many plants can not only withstand freezing temperatures, but can produce flowers at this time too. I'm thinking especially of Snowdrops and the Mahonia 'Winter Sun' – the name says it all. But there are many other plants which add colour to the garden at this time of year such as the Christmas rose, cyclamen, winter clematis, honeysuckle, primulas, aconites and of course pansies.

The Elmswell Garden Club doesn't meet in January, but plans are being out in place for 2022 and we already have several bookings confirmed. Although many folk will have planted bulbs last autumn, they can be planted at other times of the year too and our first speaker for 2022 is Matthew Long who will be talking on a topic entitled 'Spring Bulbs for Garden Colour' on Tuesday 15th February at 7.30 pm at the Wesley Hall. It is sure to be a really interesting and informative meeting.

Please feel free to come along. We're always delighted to welcome new members.

If you require further information about Elmswell Garden Club (EGC), please contact Catherine, on 01359 242172 or Nick, on 01359 242601. The Club email is elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com and a good way of asking a question that will be swiftly answered.



WESLEY Coffee Shop... We are open!

Weekdays 9.00am – 4.00 pm Saturday 9.30am – 4.00 pm

Now serving home-made soups



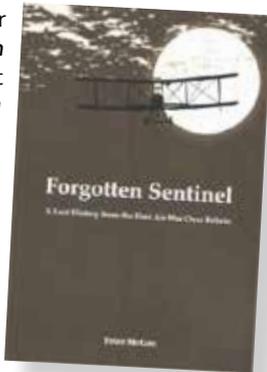
ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

We hope you managed to spend some time with your family and friends over the Christmas period but, if not, you may at least have been able to link up via the wonders of modern technology.



Our December speaker, Piers Hart of Suffolk Building Preservation Trust, gave us extensive information with superb images about their four Suffolk projects. The first three are Thelnetham Windmill (built in 1890), Lavenham's Little Hall merchant's house (dating from the 1390s and now sporting a distinctive "burnt gold" exterior on the Market Square, financed by riches made during Lavenham's immensely successful 15th century wool trade), and Pakenham Water Mill (an 18th century building, although with Roman and Anglo-Saxon origins on this site). SBPT's recently-saved project is Brandon Railway Station (built in 1845, faced with the finest quality flint knapping from the local area) which has now been listed by English Heritage, and a long-term plan for the building's re-use is underway.

GOOD NEWS - our book, "*Forgotten Sentinel*", about the *Royal Flying Corps* based at **Elmswell's WW1 Aerodrome**, is now ALSO available at Bury's Apex and Stowmarket's Museum of East Anglian Life (by Asda), as well as



at our monthly meetings, and still at Elmswell's Wesley Coffee Shop, School Rd, IP30 9EE (every Mon-Sat, 9.30am-4pm, while stocks last). Ideal for anyone interested in local social history and/or the pioneering forerunners of aviation history, the book costs just £11.99 for personal collection, or £15.49(inc.p+p) by mail order from 01359-240846.

13th January meeting CANCELLED

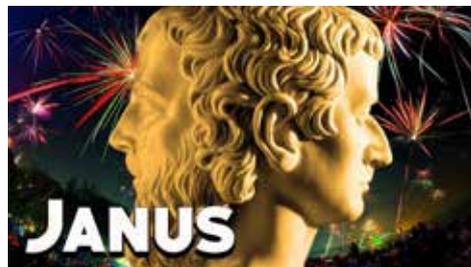
In view of the continuing uncertainties around the dratted virus, the committee has

reluctantly decided to cancel this meeting, with the fervent hope that we can re-book this speaker into our next season's programme. So, we look forward to meeting again on 10th February, although that will have to be reviewed nearer the time, and everyone will be advised accordingly.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

We have kept admission to our talks at only £2 throughout 2021 for members and visitors alike, but this will have to change in 2022 as our hall hire fees are due to increase then. Whilst subs would have been due in January, the committee will review the situation as soon as possible and definitely in time for our June AGM (effective for our 2022-23 season from Sept), and it still remains to be seen whether we will be able to organise a July outing.

NEW YEAR CUSTOMS



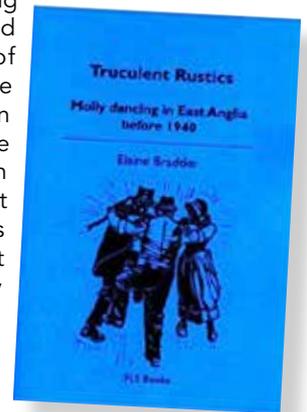
The month of January is named after Janus, the Roman God of beginnings and endings; perhaps not surprisingly, he was always depicted with two faces as he looks to the future and the past.

Did you know that many local people still refer to New Year's Eve as 'Old Year's Night'? One custom on that night was to remove all rubbish from the house, finish washing any clothes or bed linen, and throw out any dirty water. Possibly related to this, is the habit of opening the back door to see out the Old Year and then the front door to see in the New Year.

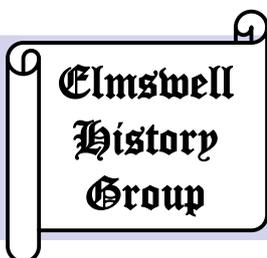
A custom peculiar to Suffolk was called 'Dipping the Bible'. Folks would sleep with the bible under their pillow on the first night of New Year. Waking in the dark, a random page was then marked with a pin. In the morning light, the verse picked could hopefully be interpreted as a good omen for the year.



Specific to East Anglia is Molly Dancing, similar to Morris dancing but perhaps even more colourful. Traditionally, it only appeared around winter between Christmas and the start of spring ploughing, and was a means of income when the land was frozen and could not be worked. To learn more, seek out Elaine Bradtke's book "*Truculent Rustics - Molly Dancing in East Anglia before 1940*" (FLS Books).



Last, but not least - we wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year with the hope for good health, new beginnings and, eventually (fingers crossed), a return to normality.



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



ELMSWELL LIBRARY



Hello Elmswell,

I hope you all had a good Yule, Christmas and New Year.

This year Suffolk Libraries Jumpstart January events will be online. Join our free online fitness classes and wellbeing events. Open to people of all ages — and fitness levels — throughout January. There will also be suggesting titles to help you on your health and wellbeing journey. Our January display will be books that have won awards over the last 12 months including the East Anglian Book of the Year: *The Stubborn Light of Things: A Nature Diary* by Melissa Harrison, the winner of Women's Prize for Fiction 2021: *Piranesi* by Susanna Clarke, the winner of the Jhalak Prize 2021: *The First Woman* by Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi, the Golden Dagger award winner from the Crime

Writers' Association: *We Begin at the End* by Chris Whitaker and many others. From 18th January until end of February we will have artwork in the gallery space by Mind Doodles. The artwork and illustrations drawn as a way of coping with mental health issues, drawing these helps achieve an inner peace and calm, they often relate to mental health issues along with our planet and the challenges we all face day by day. Artworks will be for sale.

The testing kits have changed. We will still have them but they are boxes of 20 tests rather than 7. There is a maximum of 1 box per household. At the time of going to print they are available to anyone who visits the library for free without a need to pre-order or give personal details but as there will be more per box. You can just come in and pick them up.

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

See you in the library soon,

Miles

What's on at Elmswell Library?

Story Time

1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday

The Keep in Touch Community Café

Currently suspended

Adult Reading Practice

Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please book in advance.

Sunday Crafts

1pm – 2pm every Sunday

Lego Club

Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

South African Wine evening

Friday 25th February 2022

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



CITIZENS ADVICE

I'm a bit anxious about going out into shops at the moment so I want to do more shopping online, but there's been things in the news about delivery problems. I'm worried about not receiving things on time or packages being lost. What should I do if my parcel goes missing?

When you're online shopping, it's not always clear whom to contact if things go wrong.

As a customer, your contract is with the seller that you bought the item from. It's the seller's responsibility to make sure the item is delivered to you. They should chase the courier to find out what happened to your order if there's a problem.

If your parcel hasn't arrived:

- Check the delivery address you gave the seller, to make sure it's correct.
- Then contact the seller and ask where your order is.
- If the seller claims they've delivered it or doesn't know where it is, you can ask for a redelivery. You might be able to get a refund in some circumstances where the delivery time was essential and you let the seller know ahead of time.

Under the Consumer Rights Act 2015, you can ask the seller to deliver the item to you again if the item wasn't delivered either by an agreed date, or within a reasonable time - usually within 30 days.

If the new delivery fails to come within a reasonable time, you can ask the seller for a refund.

If your parcel was left somewhere:

Another problem people face is when parcels get left in different places, for example outside or with a neighbour.

If your item was delivered by Royal Mail:

If Royal Mail left your package with a neighbour or in a certain place because you told them to, it's not the seller or Royal Mail's responsibility if it gets lost.

If they leave it somewhere you hadn't

instructed, it's the seller's responsibility if it gets lost. You should contact the seller to ask for a redelivery or a refund.

If the item was delivered by a courier:

Check your terms and conditions or account details - they might include other places for delivery, like your porch or a neighbour's house. If you agreed to them, it's not the seller's or courier's responsibility if your order has gone missing. However if you did not agree to this, then it's the seller's responsibility if your order goes missing.

If you ordered something from a private seller or you're still having trouble after trying the tips above, you can contact Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk for help.

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

**citizens
advice**

Mid Suffolk

P H Peckham

Plumbing and
Heating Engineer

28 Eastern Way

Elmswell

Tel. 01359 240958

Mob. 07802 642884

Email:

phpeckhamplumbing@gmail.com

Gas Safe Register No 214650



214650



- 24 HOUR CALL OUT
- FREE Estimates
- Corgi Registered Solid Fuel, Oil or Gas
- Bathroom Suites Designed and Installed
- Water Softners Fitted
- Tiling
- Boilers Serviced

Wayne Salmon Electrical

For all your electrical requirements - Domestic, commercial and industrial.

All work carried out to a high standard.

Mobile 07843 302798



M.O.T. DUE

Require a quick reliable service ?

M.O.T. classes 4 and 7 tested.

Tests available for all types of cars and vans up to 3.5 tonnes gross.

Local collection service available.

Also repairs and servicing available on request.

**D A BEVAN
THE WORKSHOP
GROVE LANE
INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
ELMSWELL**

PHONE 01359 241158 / 244421

tcllandscapes.co.uk



**The Country Life
Landscapes** "Growing with you"



Supply
Decorative Stones
Soil Improver • Turf
Aggregates • Stones
Woodchips • Barks
Hardcores • Logs
Sands • Topsoils
Composts & More

BULK BAG

Garden Supplies
& Waste Collection
Tel: 01359 240094
Email: orders@tcllandscapes.co.uk

- Design
- Construction
- Maintenance

As well as a complete landscape and maintenance service, we offer garden supplies and waste collection



Collection
Green Waste
Wood • Soil
Turf • Weeds
Hardcore • Stone
Brick • Slabs
Concrete • Metal



BJW PLUMBING & HEATING YOUR RELIABLE LOCAL PLUMBER

Boiler Servicing
Central Heating Installation
Maintenance & Repairs
Bathroom Suites, Showers, Tiling
Install Washing Machines/Dishwashers
Burst/Leaking Pipes
Water Softeners
General Plumbing Needs

GAS Safe registered 200169



200169

BARRY WARD: 01449 616034/07734 872549

BLOMFIELD MAINTENANCE

GAS ENGINEER
Natural and Propane (LPG)

Servicing and repairs of:
BOILERS & COOKERS

**COMMERCIAL CATERING
EQUIPMENT**

Installation of:
COOKERS and HOBS



134842

**LANDLORD GAS
SAFETY CHECKS**

01359 241454

07889 616937



OVER 55s CLUB

Following two successful evenings at the club with Cash Bingo on the Thursday there was one very lucky table winning a couple of full houses and to cap it all the jackpot game went to the same person on that table. Two days later fifty members and guests sat down to an excellent Xmas Meal catered for by Home Farm Catering (Amy Cross) from Walsham le Willows. Entertainment for the evening was provided by "Brotherhood" which included many season numbers.

I would like once again to thank my committee for their support during this short period of meetings and also a big thank you for all the Xmas cards received from members and friends. We will hopefully meet again next February please stay safe.

Diann (241002)



ELMSWHEELIANS 2021

Sunday 19th December was a really unpleasant, grey, damp, misty morning, but not bad enough to deter 9 riders from taking to the road for our last ride of the year.

Our ride took us out of the village along Church Road, down Bunkers Hill and onto Tostock Green. From there it was Drinkstone Park, Drinkstone Green, Woolpit Green, Woolpit Heath, Borley Green, and back into the village via Warren Lane.

All quite uneventful, except our Back Marker almost didn't start the ride because of a problem with his bike !! But he did make it, and all was well !

A good ride, just a fraction over 10 miles, and we finished in traditional style with pre-Christmas drinks at "The Fox".

No more rides now until the spring, when, as usual, details of forthcoming events will be published here in the Newsletter.

To remind everyone, we are an informal group of like-minded individuals who enjoy cycling, at a normal pace, and not for long distances. Our rides vary between 10 and 20 miles depending upon the weather, and whether we are doing an evening ride or a day-time ride.

There is no membership and nothing to pay; just turn up, and join a group of like-minded people. You will be very welcome. We do ask, however, that you are aged 16+.

And please note that all our rides start from Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell.



In conclusion, can I thank everyone who cycled with us this year for your support in what has not been an easy year, and we all look forward to better times, hopefully sooner rather than later.

Happy New Year.

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

Tel : 01359 240908



WESLEY Coffee Shop... We are open!

Now serving home-made soups

Happy New Year from St John's Elmswell



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Happy New Year from St John's :

As we head into 2022, let's recall the words of D:ream, "Things can only get better." Well, let's hope and pray this may be so. It's a new year with new beginnings. Together, let's make 2022 a great one!

On Sunday mornings at St John's we are going to get stuck into some of the teaching of Jesus. Our Lord loved to use parables and, between now and the end of March, we are going to be looking at a selection of these in the gospels of Matthew and Luke.

But what are parables, exactly? In many ways they are simple stories or allegories. I once heard somebody describe them as "earthly stories with a heavenly meaning." I quite like that description. Jesus loved to include familiar daily activities, objects, events and people in his telling of these little stories. But these parables were not for pure entertainment - behind each one lies a much deeper meaning. Please do join us at 10:30am on Sundays (the first Sunday in the month is our Family Service) and find out what on earth (or maybe I should say in Heaven) Jesus was talking about.

The teachings of Jesus have changed the world. At St John's, we have a number of small groups where we read and discuss the Bible together in order to deepen our faith. You are very welcome to join one of these groups. Some of these remain on Zoom at the moment, whereas others meet in person (at the time or writing). Maybe you have never read the Bible before or are not sure where to start. If you are interested in finding our more, do drop us a line - elmswellrector@gmail.com

Also a reminder that our Sunday School meets at 9:30am every Sunday over Zoom for 30 minutes (except for the first Sunday in each

month, when we have a Family Service at 10:30am). Do get in touch with us for more information.

And finally, here is our Bible verse for 2022:

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures for ever." (Psalm 107 vs 1)

Diary for January:

Sun 2 Jan 9:00am

Lord's Supper (spoken service)

Sun 2 Jan 10:30am

All Age Service

Sun 9 Jan 10:30am

Worship and Communion

Sun 16 Jan 10:30am

Sunday Worship

Sun 23 Jan 10:30am

Worship and Communion

Sun 30 Jan 10:30am

Sunday Worship

We hope to also live stream most of the services on our Facebook page (also available on our main web site later that day).

Every Saturday:

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

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



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 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 and payments please to :-

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

Thank You and a Happy New Year to all.

DECEMBER 2021 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 25 Merry Christmas Mum (xx) & Dad (xx).
- 25 cherished memories of Hugh & Dora Handyside. "God Bless. Remembered with love".
- 25 in loving memory of Tony & Mary. "Remembered with love. God Bless" Margaret. xx.
- 26 cherished memories of Hugh & Dora Handyside. " Remembered with love. God Bless".
- 26 in loving memory of Tony & Mary. "Remembered with love. God Bless". Margaret. xx.

JANUARY 2022 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 6 to remember Evelyn Simpson. "Forever in our thoughts". From all the family. "God Bless".
- 7 cherished memories of Tony Roberts on his Birthday, from his loving wife Margaret (Maggie) and from all his family in Suffolk.
- 13 in loving memory of my mother Eileen Fraser on her Birthday.
- 15 in memory of Geoffrey Dalton on his Birthday.
- 15 in loving memory of Allison Schofield, devoted wife and mum. "She brightened all our lives and we miss you more every day". All our love, Michael, Christopher and Jonathan.
- 19 in loving memory of Natasha Smith.
- 22 thinking of Rob Dalby on your Birthday. "Always in our hearts".
- 23 in loving memory of Ricky Woolnough's Birthday.

All bookings and payments please to :-

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



CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest: Rev. Simon Leworthy, The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1BQ

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

MASS TIMES:

Saturday (First Mass of Sunday) – 6PM

St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30 9QG

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

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

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the

front of Our Lady's Church, in the weekly Newsletter and on

the Parish Website – www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH



By the time you read this all the Christmas festivities will be over and we will all be looking forward to a brighter new year when hopefully the constraints of the Covid Pandemic will begin to subside. The coming of our lord Jesus brought hope to the world and the celebration of his coming at Christmas re-ignites that hope for Christians throughout the world. Peace on Earth was the message that the angels brought to the Shepherds that first Christmas and that is what we wish for today.

On the 9th December our food and friends Christmas lunch took place at the church where we entertained our regular guests to a sumptuous Christmas lunch; our numbers were a little bit down on previous years. We are hoping to continue offering the lunches in the new year subject to the Government's rules on "Gatherings".

It was great to see so many village folk at the Carols on the Green "Gathering" on the 15th December all singing heartily to the music of the Norton Salvation Army Band, whilst we were enjoying mince pies afterwards we witnessed the unusual sight of a pullman train passing through the village, and that was not all we also enjoyed a visit by Santa on his sleigh riding past Crown Mill a fitting end to a successful evening.

Our services held at 10.30 each Sunday will be led in January by

January 2nd Rev. Norman Tharby (Inc. communion)

January 9th Mark Partridge (All age service)

January 16th Stephen Horrex

January 23rd Rev Norman Tharby

January 30th Stephen Spurgeon

On **Monday 10th January** our Ladies Friendship Group meet at 2pm to hear a talk by David Hitchcock on the work of the charity "Tools with a Mission". Our Ladies Friendship group is an open group so all ladies are welcome not just those who attend our services.

On **Thursday 13th January** the first Food and Friends lunch takes place at Midday at the church as with the Ladies Friendship Group the lunches are open to our older residents not just those who attend our church services.

It only remains for me to wish all Newsletter Readers a very Happy New Year and look forward to hopefully meeting some of you at our services or activities in the future.

Please contact Tony on 01359 241541 or go to our website www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk for any more information that you require.

God Bless You All
Dave



WESLEY UKULELE BAND

Trafalgar Night was another roaring success even though we didn't manage to finish our full programme. It was the first event we have done in our short career where we were not the centre of the proceedings. The Legion had a grand banquet with speeches and awards and we were engaged to fill such time as was left, but what we did was well received and those who had imbibed enough, but not too much, joined in with gusto! Our Cambridge photographer, Alan Batterbee, was on hand for both the Legion's function and took



some amazing photo's of us, too, and has kindly allowed me to share them with you. As you can guess, the venue was decked out with Union Flags so the backdrop is colourful too say the least! The photos are from the Trafalgar Night at the Stowmarket British Legion and feature Peter Williams on harmonica, with Steve and Gail, and yours truly on kazoo with Keith and photographer Alan. Steve also plays kazoo but Kevin suggested that I fix mine to end of my Ukulele and play it like a trumpet.

We have also played at Our Lady's Catholic Church at Stowmarket indicating what gluttons for punishment they are down there!

If you would like to join in our fun and games, contact Kevin using the details below and don't let having no ukulele put you off!

For information please call Kevin on 01359 240604

Or email: Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com



Are you looking for 16.5 hours work a week term time only initially for a 18 month contract?

We are looking for a qualified person (preferably level 3), to work as an additional support to one of our children.

Come and join our fabulous team and make a difference to a young person's life.

Send your cv to info@littleelms.co.uk to Melanie

Volunteers urgently needed!

Can you help support your local vaccination centre?



Sign up here:

www.communities1st.org.uk/covidsteward
To speak to a friendly member of our team, call: 020 3940 4865



W. Jarvis & Son Tree Services & Landscapes

All aspects of tree surgery, landscaping and fencing undertaken



Fully insured, 24hr call out, council approved contractor and over 35 years in the industry

Call for a free estimate & advice T: 01359 241958 M: 07891 208710 M: 07850 046504
E: office@wjarvisandson.co.uk

Visit our website for information about our company and the work we do
www.wjarvistreeservices.co.uk



City & Guilds
NPTC
Qualified workforce

AROUND & ABOUT



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

On Tuesday 14th December during a break in proceedings, we were able to enjoy one or two Christmas nibbles. It also allowed us time to make a presentation to our former chairman and treasurer in celebration of his long and dedicated service to the club. Ted Evans has given exemplary service and seen the club grow to become a regular feature of Elmswell life. Due to the need to be a full time carer to his wife, he now no longer is able to guarantee attendance on a regular basis. Club members were delighted that we were able to appoint Ted as Honorary Life President and current chairman Eddie Douglas made the presentation on members' behalf. Rosie Collins presented Ted with a hamper of Christmas goodies from members, pictured here. NB: Ted's preferred subject, a dog can be seen. We wish him and his family well and hope to see him whenever he can make it.

Thank you, Ted.

Diagnostic Testing

M.K.AUTO'S

- Car & Light Commercial Service & Repair Specialist
- General Servicing, Maintenance and Repairs on All Makes and Models
- MOT Preparation and Repairs
- Recovery, Collection and Delivery Service

FOR A PERSONAL SERVICE AT A COMPETITIVE RATE PLEASE CALL ON

Tel: 01359 245 998
Mob: 0780 5604793

Unit 3
The Old Coach Yard - Grove Lane Ind. Est.
Elmswell IP30 9HN

NO VAT!

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
Appointment Not Always Required
• CAMBELT • HEAD GASKETS

TYRES • EXHAUSTS • BATTERIES • CLUTCHES

BRAKES • WELDING • SUSPENSION • TUNING

TONY FISHER PLUMBING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

- 24hr Emergency Callout
- Bursts, leaks, blockages etc.
- Bathroom/shower installation
- Tanks/cylinders/radiators
- Tiling floors/walls
- Painting & Decorating
- General DIY jobs
- Garden Maintenance

Tel. 01359 242556
Mobile 07758327743
Reliable & Friendly Service!

Not just a pet food shop...

We also have a large stock of pet sundries, wild bird foods, poultry feeds and coldwater and tropical fish sundries.

We also stock horse grooming equipment, frozen reptile foods, salt tablets for your water softeners and dishwashers... and much more.

4 P A W Pet Foods

Mon -Fri: 9-4
Sat: 9-2
01359 242942

Station Road, Elmswell IP309HD (behind the pharmacy)

Come and see our range of products today!

DAVID MARTIN
MOTOR VEHICLE ENGINEERS & CAR SALES

Station Hill, Thurston, Bury St Edmunds IP31 3QU
www.davidmartinmotorengineer.co.uk
info@davidmartinmotorengineer.co.uk
Open Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm
Tel: 01359 230536 Mob: 07808 508864

Local, honest, friendly, reliable family run business offering car and light commercial vehicle repairs at competitive prices

<p style="text-align: center;">MOTs</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Class 4, 5 (minibus) & 7 (up to 3,500kg)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**including free retest**</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SERVICING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">on all makes & models</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">**including vehicles under main dealer warranty**</p>
<p>Brake overhauls Cam belts Diagnostics 4 wheel alignment</p>	<p>Vehicle recoveries Welding Exhausts Batteries</p>
<p>We offer a FREE collection / delivery service, from your home or workplace (within the local area)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Courtesy car available (subject to availability)</p>	<p>Tyres supplied & fitted at competitive prices (available same day when ordered before 12pm)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Air con. re-gas & repair R134a & R1234yf (estimates available on request)</p>

We are proud to be members of the Good Garage Scheme, check our feedback @ www.goodgaragescheme.com
NO WORK IS CARRIED OUT WITHOUT FULL CONSENT FROM THE CUSTOMER

Worried about Savings?

Let our team of financial advisers help you to get the most from your savings and investments.

Confused about your pension?

We would be happy to discuss the options available for your retirement planning.

Want to protect your family or income or mortgage and loan?

We are here to advise on the right solutions for your budget.

Mortgages?

For a competitive mortgage, we have advisers to assist with that purchase or remortgage.

Equity Release

We have advisers able to assist you with this area of advice.

Equity Release will reduce the value of your estate and can affect your eligibility for means tested benefits.

We make it



The Old Police House,
Cooks Road, Elmswell,
Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk IP30 9DB.
Tel: 0345 271 3245



TRAVEL STOP
BIG ENOUGH TO OFFER THE WORLD, SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE

Book with us and we will assist in guiding you through the latest travel requirements.

Telephone: 01359 242555

Email: elmswell@travel-stop.co.uk

Open Thursdays and by appointment on other days at Elmswell Railway Station



Travel Stop has over 30 years experience as your local travel agent. We can find the perfect holiday for you.

ATOL / ABTA protected.



Don't just take our word for it ...

"From the outset the service we received was prompt, efficient, first class and friendly - with good feedback."

"Your service was helpful & professional from start to finish. We were most impressed."

"My house sold within days of you putting it on the market and thereafter you were always on the end of your phone, in order to answer my many questions."

"Your knowledge of the local property market proved invaluable and your attention to potential purchasers, a great time saving asset."

"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."

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

PLEASE CALL FOR YOUR FREE VALUATION
01284 769691 • 01449 737706 • 07803 138123
or visit www.coakleyandtheaker.co.uk

NOW IN ELMSWELL
CALL 01359 256821
Reduced fee for Elmswell Sellers*
T's & C's and minimum fees apply



*If you have instructed another agent on a sole agency basis, then the terms of those instructions should be considered to avoid a possible liability to pay two fees.



Hedgerow standards at the Green Cemetery

This season's tree planting has all been within the Green Cemetery just to the south of Lukeswood, with trees provided by Mid Suffolk District Council as part of their programme to improve tree cover throughout the district.

The problem for many parishes, including Elmswell, is that space is now at a premium and finding suitable land for large-scale tree planting is very difficult. However, there is still scope for increasing trees within the parish, along with the benefits for biodiversity that they provide.

The Woodland Trust's recent report, State of the UK's Woods and Trees, draws attention to the importance of TOWs – trees outside woodland – which include standards within hedgerows, street trees, scattered trees and small groups of trees on farms and along rivers. These trees make a vital contribution to ecological connectivity as well as to the historical landscape, but millions have been lost due to agricultural intensification, development and disease. The Report cites the example of the Eastern Claylands – our area – where half of all TOWs recorded in 1850 have disappeared, and recommends urgent restoration actions in order to reconnect the landscape.

The hedgerows on the eastern and southern side of the Green Cemetery originally contained two mature standards, both oaks, along with one further oak planted as a whip several years ago which is still very small. So we've now planted more trees in these two hedges which in time will grow into standards.

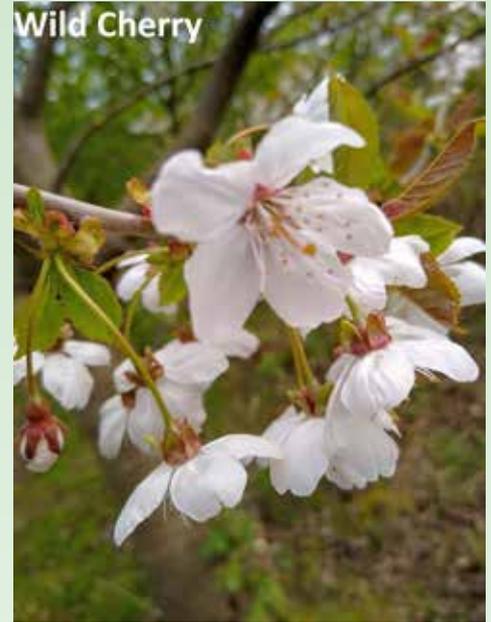
Traditional hedgerow standards would have been Oak, Ash and Elm, but due to disease this is no longer a sustainable option. Oak, Hornbeam and Cherry offer a better alternative and also complement the planting plan of the hedge on the northern side (between the Green Cemetery and Lukeswood) which included Oak and Cherry as standards.

At the same time we planted thirty whips to fill a gap within the eastern hedge. The new planting will greatly improve these hedgerows, both visually and for wildlife



A new blossom circle

The National Trust has recently introduced initiatives to encourage more blossom trees, including the planting of 'blossom circles' in public spaces where people can enjoy them. One such already exists in the village: some years ago a circle of trees was planted around the maze to provide blossom at different times through the year. We thought that it would be a lovely idea to create a new blossom circle at the Green Cemetery, so we've planted seven trees in the north-western corner, next to Lukeswood, all chosen for their beautiful blossom – Crabapple Red Sentinel, Bird Cherry, Cherry Stella, Cherry Plum and



Cherry Plena. Once established, we hope that the new blossom circle will provide an attractive feature for quiet reflection for visitors to either cemetery. A very satisfying tree planting session – as you can see from our photo – and we're all looking forward to a spectacular display of blossom in future years!



Willow cutting at Lukeswood

Don't forget our willow cutting morning – Saturday 22nd January, 9.30-12.30 – when we'll be giving free bundles of willow to everyone who comes along to help. A great way to start the New Year!

Wishing everyone a very happy and healthy 2022!

THE ELMSWELL ARCHIVE

Some of the material which has been deposited in the village's new Archive Room at Blackbourne where it can be safely stored and, eventually, catalogued for reference by future generations.



A gathering of the Elmswell Book Club in 1997 when they met to discuss their 100th title, Northanger Abbey. They are in the study of Mary Monk (front left), who had taught for many years at Elmswell School, in her house at The Meadows on Church Hill. From left to right we see,

BACK

Mo Dow, Joan Hunter, Sheila Rush, Christine Boby

FRONT

Mary Monk, Jill ?, Jan Butcher

An aerial photograph of the Bacon Factory in its heyday complete with brass plate confirming, '24th June 1976'. The houses for managers and staff stand on St Edmund's Drive which today leads from Ashfield Road into the housing development. Also visible is the Portakabin which served as the Social Club and which hosted many memorable village dances.



ELMSWELL AMENITIES ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th November 1984.
at 8.30. in the Library.

Present:- Mr Fish, Mrs Beardson, Mr Perry, Mr Reed, Mr King, Mr Armstrong, Mr Reed, Mr Dow, Mr Birch, Mrs King, Mr Pivwright.

Apologies for Absences:- Mrs Dalson, Mr Taylor, Mr Goyner, Mr Kelly, Mr Maywood.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read, and signed by the Chairman.
There were no Matters Arising.

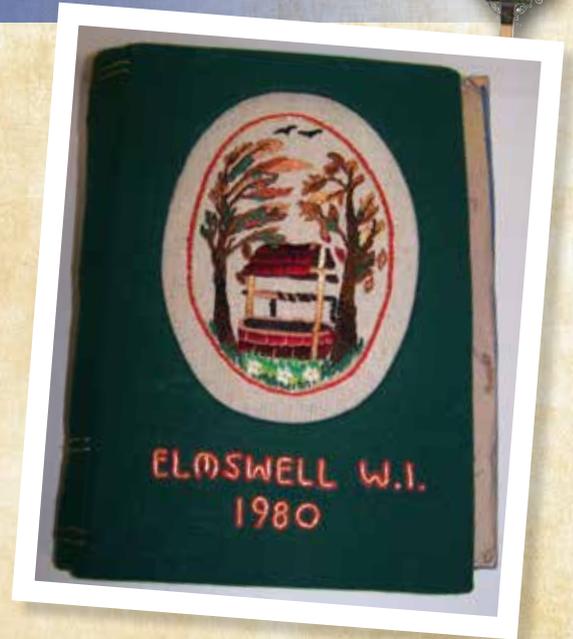
Secretary's Report. This was read by the Chairman. There was a profit of only £67 from Harrington's Music Hall, but an enjoyable evening was had by all.
It was noted that the Football Club still owe us the £100 subsidy which we gave them to re-organise the dance. The Secretary will write to Mrs. Mr Finch.

Spillages Committee. Mr Perry reported that the Spotlights had been repaired.
There appears to be a break in the sewer pipe leading into the road, under the path. It will be necessary to ask the Council and the Water Authority whose responsibility the repair is. This could cost us around £500. Because of the broken Manhole Cover, or rather its total disappearance, there is a risk of debris falling into the drainage system.
Mr Perry repeated his opinion that there is little point in spending too much money in attempting to put right the fast deteriorating Hall and Car park.
Mr King stated that the longer it was left in a state of disrepair, the higher would be the cost of repair in the long run.
Mr Fish wondered if we could persuade the Parish Council to take on the running of the Hall. As there is no hope of a new hall, we must keep this one going.
Mr Reed felt that some fund raising for the Hall instead of the playing field.
Mr King said that there was a noticeable lack of support for things of this nature in the village.
He also reported that there had been no opposition to the 20% increase in hiring charges.
It was felt that, as the playing field was likely to be outside the village, we should still need the hall on its present site.
Mr Reed, on his next contact with the collector, would

A page from one of the many Minute books lodged in the archive. This from the Elmswell Amenities Association in November 1984 is a carbon of the typed original and includes the opinion of one of the members when discussing the Memorial Hall for which they were responsible, "there is little point in spending too much money in attempting to put right a fast deteriorating Hall and car park." It was some 14 years later that the opening of Blackbourne finally managed to address the problem.



The Jubilee Quiz Cup was inaugurated in 1977 and won successively by the Parish Council, Elmswell School PTA, Elmswell Playgroup, Hawes Printers, twice by Elmswell Thursday Group, The Fox (for 5 consecutive years), RSVP, and, when last contested in 2017 by 'Big D' The Archive would welcome any photographs of any of the teams.



A scrapbook from the excellent collection of papers and artefacts donated by Elmswell WI – all carefully stored and listed. There are 9 such books, this one collated by Jill Reed with an embroidered cover made by Mrs Sharples and Mrs Royal.

A Victorian flat iron as found and donated by a resident. Still in good condition and with the original turned wooden handle intact it has a drop-down trap door through which small coals can be inserted from the kitchen fire to provide the heat.



The brass commemorative plaque installed on a seat in 1935 at Bunkers Hill off Church Road on the church bank. The seat eventually fell to bits, but this was saved.

Just below where the seat stood, was Bunkers Hill Cottage, pictured here in about 1970. The substantial dwelling was subject to much rumour as to later ownership but was allowed to deteriorate until today there is little sign it was there.



Finding it hard to pay the bills?



We have lots of ways to help you and your loved ones.

If you're finding it difficult to pay, we offer:

Discounted tariffs

Assistance schemes

Affordable payment plans

Find out more

anglianwater.co.uk/extra-care

0800 011 3774

BSL anglianwater.co.uk/bsl

Scan here



ANG131/08/21

CONFIDENCE BUILDING MARTIAL ARTS ELMSWELL

FIRST WEEK FREE!
CONTACT US TODAY

07752 328024

Lewis Greathead Martial Arts

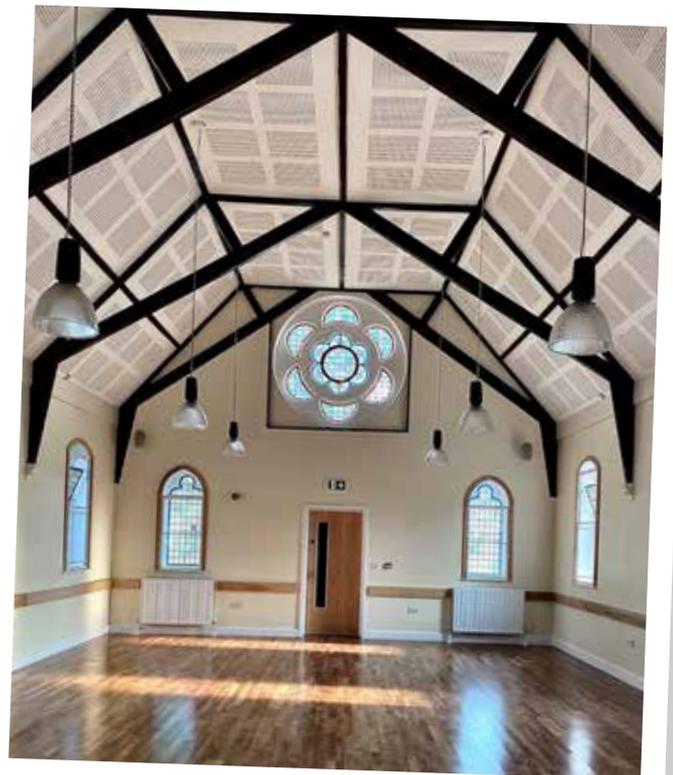
AROUND & ABOUT

BLACKBOURNE & WESLEY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

The facilities at Blackbourne and Wesley are managed on behalf of the Parish Council by the BWMA, a body comprising 25 members made up of 17 user-group representatives, 3 parish councillors, the parish clerk and 4 elected individuals.

A much delayed AGM was held at Wesley on 2nd December followed by the first Committee meeting since February 2020. The Chairman's Report covered the considerable progress made in that time. Wesley was completed and is up and running successfully with the coffee shop emerging as an important new social community focus whilst the refurbished chapel is widely admired and much sought after for gatherings of all kinds. Meanwhile, the considerable extension at Blackbourne has created the Village Archive room, much improved storage facilities and a second Parish Council office to handle an ever-increasing workload. The Association will be integral in the development of the 6 extra acres of amenity land adjacent to Blackbourne gifted by Stan and Ian Turner to the village with extended car parking a priority. Looking forward, the next opportunity for continuing progress will be the development of the Elmswell Tavern as a community pub right next door to Wesley and offering wide opportunities for co-operation.

The Meeting which followed the AGM re-elected existed officers and heard from Nick Brooks, the Treasurer, that the books had been found to be in good order when inspected by the Parish Council's Internal Auditor and that the Association had benefitted from Government grant aid during lockdown which has helped maintain a healthy financial situation and allowed refunds and hold-over payment arrangements which have meant that no hirers of the facilities have had to bear the cost of cancellations.





NEWS OF STUDENT SUCCESS AT GREATHEAD MARTIAL ARTS

On the 4th December 2021, we held our first Black Belt grading since opening in 2015.

The three students - Joshua Newson, Oscar Parsons and Kia Gridley had been training with us for over five years, and their hard work was finally rewarded when they received their black belts.

The grading consisted of both written and physical elements. It is important to understand that martial arts is about much more than punches and kicks. It's about becoming the strongest version of yourself, both physically and mentally. It's a journey of personal growth.

In the written element, each candidate described their personal journey. They all started at a young age (6-12 years old) and have overcome many challenges. As a result, they have all grown in confidence, discipline, fitness and more.

The physical test included several pre-assessments to insure they were 100% ready for the hours of exercises they were required to perform.

As a result of their hard work and commitment, they now wear their black belts with pride. They are an inspiration to us all and we look forward to seeing them continue to grow

with us at Greathead Martial Arts. We meet at Blackbourne on Tuesdays and Fridays – see the website for full details and see page 10 for our, 'First Session Free' offer.

Lewis Greathead Martial Arts
lewisgreathead.com



BOXING DAY ... IS THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN ELSWELL

That's when the 36 boxes - seen here packed and ready to go – are driven out to the volunteers who distribute the Elmswell Newsletter in their neighbourhood.

This is the 32nd year of our multi-prizewinning publication. 32 years, 12 months in a year, that's 384 editions on the first Friday of every month to every household and to businesses in the village.

You will have noticed that Elmswell continues to grow. Meanwhile, some of our distributors would like to hand on to younger folk.

If you would like to help continue this valuable community service, do, please, be in touch with Jean Barker, one of the co-editors who handles the distribution.

Call her on 01359 241135 Or email EAA@elmswell.org.uk



ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB



**3 BRANCHES
ARE BETTER
THAN 1.**

Stowmarket Newton Road IP14 5AE 01449 613147	Bury St Edmunds Cranfield Road IP32 7DF 01284 702562	Diss Victoria Road IP22 4GQ 01379 643531
---	---	---

**TRADE & PUBLIC WELCOME
LANDSCAPING
KITCHENS
TOOL HIRE
TIMBER**

ORDER ONLINE AT
JEWSON.CO.UK

JEWSON



FIRST TEAM REPORT

Results

27/11 – Junior Cup - Elmswell v Cavendish 0-0 (pens 4-5)
MOTM Tom Fisher

04/12 – Woolverstone (away) POSTPONED

11/12 – Thurston v Elmswell 2-2

Goals Andre Marcao MOTM Malin Davis

18/12 – Leiston St Margarets POSTPONED COVID

Fixtures

08/01/22 Elmswell v Kirton 13:45 ko

RESERVES REPORT

Woolverstone Reserves were our next visitors, and we were hungry for revenge after the terrible luck we had had at the away game. On the morning of the game their first team game was cancelled and so they brought six first teamers with them; tasty. The Reserves put in a great performance, outplaying the visitors for large periods, and keeping the score at 0-0 until about the 60th minute when a mistake at the back gifted Woolverstone first blood. Will Hayden then equalised after running from deep to finish after their keeper fumbled a Jake Fisher shot from distance. Their linesman tried it on and flagged offside and the referee amazingly went along with him and ruled it out. As the referee slowly lost his grip on the game and reality, he then commenced to stop our attack due to a Woolverstone defender's cramp. From our drop ball, instead of dropping it at our player's feet, he shamefully rolled it several metres behind him to the opposition winger who ran down the wing and crossed for their second goal. The most outrageous refereeing I've ever seen. Jake Fisher managed to pull one back and as we pushed up desperately for an equaliser from a corner, they caught us on the break to win the game 1-3. Man of the Match went to captain, Aidan Ashton.

We then travelled over to Somersham Reserves, with whom we'd drawn 2-2 first game of the season. Aidan Ashton kept the armband after his performance the previous week and chose to play up the sizeable slope. As expected it was a tough



RT Details
**Detailing
Perfection**

Based in Elmswell, we offer a come to you service for peace of mind, get in touch for your own bespoke quote today!

Tel: 07788778465 Email: ryan@rtdetails.com

Web: rtdetails.com

Services Include :

Car Valets, Interior Details, Surface And Wheel Protection Packages, Machine Polishing, Engine Bay Detailing And More!



TOMLINSON GROWDCARE 

Horticultural & Garden Machinery Suppliers

Sales Service Parts Repairs Toys

Ride on mowers from £1599 inc vat

Walk behind petrol & battery mowers from £199 inc vat

Strimmers, hedge cutters, blowers, chainsaws etc

Garden tools, paddock & turf machinery

Service & repair all makes

Set in over 20 acres - Try before you buy

Established in Buxhall since 1991 - We hope to see you soon

Brettenham Road, Buxhall, Stowmarket IP14 3DL
01449 736060 www.tomlinsongrowdcare.co.uk

AL-KO EGO ECHO WEIBANG



BADWELL ASH RUMBLES

FISH BAR - BURGERS - FRIED CHICKEN

TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME

TEL: 01359 258 258

THE STREET, BADWELL ASH IP313DH



retainerposts.com

We are pleased to help support Elmswell FC part fund the new kit

Retainer posts supply steel retaining posts for all landscape projects; big and small. Manufactured bespoke to individual customer requirements. Nationwide delivery available.



**Contact us on:
No : 07494 864231**

ELMSWELL FC RESERVES' SPONSOR

ServiceMASTER Clean

Upholstery

Carpets & Rugs

Amtico+Karndean



t.01359 241577 m.07398251908

www.servicemasterclean.co.uk/west-suffolk



half, Somersham finding the top corner early on for their first and doubling their lead from a corner. We eventually managed to keep the ball a bit better and playing out from the back, started to make progress up the hill. An own goal after Jake Fisher put the ball into a dangerous area gave us hope and a great finish in off the post from Will Hayden pulled us level before halftime. The second half was difficult after the exertion of the first forty-five and the game wasn't decided until very late on. Jordan Ashton sent a high ball over the top and Jake Fisher managed to get the flick and then run on to it, round the keeper and slot home for the Elmswell win. Get in. Jake got MOTM and is now the division's top scorer with 14 goals in 10 games.

Top of the table Kesgrave Kestrels were our next opponents in horrendous conditions. We gave away an early penalty and a second goal some minutes later. A change in formation stemmed the tide and we held them off until halfway through the second half. With the hail lashing in our faces their superiority in class and numbers saw them romp away 6-0 winners. MOTM Captain Kurt Bevan.

Ipswich Vale Exiles was cancelled due to the rain and boggy pitch.

And then 'The Old Foe', Old Newton at The Blackbourne. Their Reserves didn't have a game that day so their A's were boosted somewhat. Much like the Woolverstone match, we raised our game and maybe surprised them a little by not just rolling over. However, we did gift them a penalty before they split us open for their second and the ref gifted them another penalty for their third. We didn't give up though and kept in touch after an own goal from a Jake Fisher cross/shot which he followed up with an audacious goal. Will Hayden scored a brave near post header from a corner, but an Old Newton Screamer clinched it 3-4 for the visitors. The ref, having ignored Newton throat grabbing and elbowing, sent off Jon Macro for a 50/50 challenge on the edge of our box to leave an even bitterer taste. MOTM Jake Fisher.

Given the current situation we don't know how much football there'll be in January but we wish you and yours all the best for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Up the Elm.



PARK GARAGE SERVICES

your local garage

ALL MAKES & MODELS

SERVICE & REPAIRS

01359 242 479



Farthings of Newmarket

are proud to support **Elmswell Football Club**

5c Wellington Street, Newmarket Tel: 01638 560610
17 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds Tel: 01284 701060
143 Milton Road, Cambridge Tel: 01223 755180
www.farthingsdrycleaners.co.uk



YOU COULD SUPPORT ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB - PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE PLEASE CONTACT SHAUN 07494 864 231



TBS HIRE

Available to Hire from a modern Fleet:



- Diggers & Dumpers
- Access Equipment
- Power Tools
- Concreting Equipment
- Landscaping & Garden Machinery
- Stump Grinders and Chippers

Plant & Tool servicing and repair also undertaken

Thurston Rd,
Great Barton,
Bury St. Edmunds, T: 01284 788122
Suffolk, IP31 2PJ E: info@tbs-hire.co.uk

www.tbs-hire.co.uk



FENCING, GARDENING & PATIOS

All fencing supplied and erected
All garden work...regular maintenance or one-off

- Grass cutting up to 3½ acres
- Garden Clearance
- Tree Felling • Stump Grinding
- Concrete bases laid • Sheds erected
- Turf Laying • Artificial Turf
- Driveways • Pressure Washing
- Garden machines serviced and repaired

No obligation quotes

Contact Andy

01449 403050 077487 85197

wade.andrew63@gmail.com

CLARKES

CLARKES OF WALSHAM LIMITED

CALL **CLICK** **BUY IN STORE**



COUNTRY STORE EQUESTRIAN ANIMAL FEED PLUMBING
ROOFING MATERIALS TIMBER PRODUCTS

BUILDING & AGRICULTURAL MERCHANTS

METAL POWER TOOLS
FABRICATION JOINERY

CLOTHING **FENCING** GARDEN FURNITURE WORKSHOP
AGGREGATE BARBECUES FIELD ENTRANCE GATES

01359 259 259

WWW.CLARKESOFWALSHAM.CO.UK

THE STREET • WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS • BURY ST EDMUNDS • IP31 3BA 01359 259 259



ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

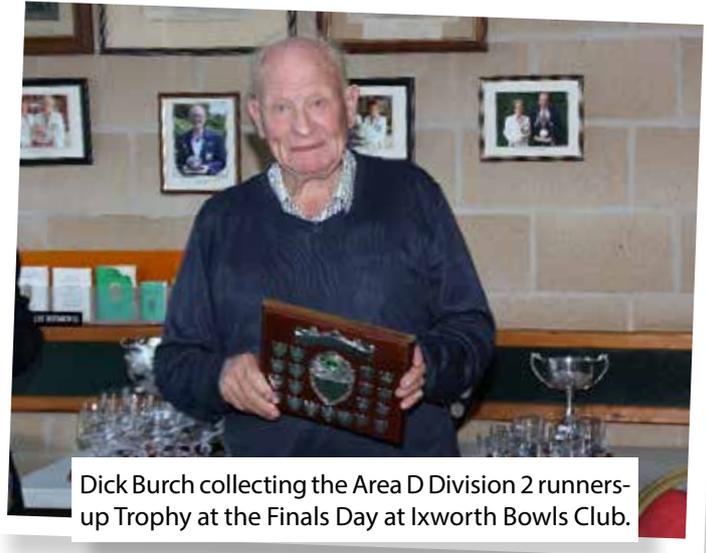
Now that we have held our AGM, I am able to put our 2022 signing-on details into print. We are scrapping roll-up fees and raising the Subscription fee to £20 to compensate. This is still way below the average cost of bowls club membership but few have the advantages that we enjoy. We are making a £500 contribution to the EPC and adding a further £50 to make up for their loss of 20% of the discontinued roll-up charges. We are offering first-time members a free year's membership as we look to attract younger members although it will apply across the board, making 2022 a very good time to join us! We are also planning to run organised training programs for the new players we are hoping to sign up.

We also decided to investigate the possibility of adopting coloured team shirts as many opponents already have, some many years ago. Plain white tops and plain grey skirts/trousers do look a bit bland, it is true, and a splash of colour might increase the appeal to younger members.

Of course, we have no idea what next year may look like and whether we will be able to play any form of bowls at all, let alone league matches. All we can say, as in life in general, is that we will do the best we can. We have 3 or 4 months to get the upper hand on this Covid business but it also has that much time to re-invent itself (again) so, as I have been writing now for months, who knows?

The cups and individual trophies on the table behind Dick were not for us but for the winners, St Edmundsbury, and the runners up, Greene King, of the league final played a little earlier that afternoon. Never mind, next year, maybe.

Stay safe



Dick Burch collecting the Area D Division 2 runners-up Trophy at the Finals Day at Ixworth Bowls Club.

Peter Edmonds
07860 395720
edmondspeterj@gmail.com



BATS

BATS, Badminton and Table Sports, i.e. Table Tennis and Pool, started again last Guy Fawkes Night and a mere handful of people turned up. We had to stop for The Firemen's Christmas Bingo and then Christmas itself and New Year but, Covid willing, we will start again on January 7th.

Maybe your New Year's Resolution involves being more active and, if it doesn't, maybe it

should. The advantage of badminton is that it can be played by all ages as long as players with similar fitness levels play together. To paraphrase the great 'Enry, 'a good young'un will always beat a good old'un'.

I am at the age where one ache immediately replaces the one just stopped, and I am looking to reclaim my Friday nights so I intend to see January out and then re-assess

the situation. I expect it to limp along until then and then I will throw the towel in. We have had a good run, can't remember how long, and have enjoyed several long periods of popularity but, sadly, only eternity goes on forever.

Peter 07860 395720

Do you
require
PRINT?

call
Jason on
01473 652354
jason@pfpprint.co.uk

PFP PRINT Ltd
Elder House | Chattisham
Ipswich | Suffolk | IP8 3QE
www.printingforpleasure.co.uk



allhomes
town and country



MAKING YOUR PROPERTY
JOURNEY THE BEST
EXPERIENCE



We achieve the very best price for your property by using interactive 3D virtual tours which bring your property to life.

With increased marketing across 5 websites and social media channels you can be sure you have reached the widest audience.

Trust your local friendly property team – we love to help!

Call us today for your property valuation and advice.

01359 234444 | mail@allhomes.uk.com | **allhomes.uk.com**

Computer Help

PC, Mac, Server or Tablet support in your office or home.
A rapid response from a qualified IT professional.

- laptop and desktop repairs, speed up your system
- cyber security, cloud systems, network setup
- data recovery and virus removal
- improve wifi, smart TV, phone, tablet etc
- individual tuition

Gage Computer Services
www.comphelp.co.uk

(01359) 245273
steve@comphelp.co.uk



Est. 2003



MEET AT THE
VILLAGE SIGN
SUNDAY 9th
JANUARY
11.00AM

Way to go...

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

All walks start from the village sign on Crown Mill.



Weather

R F Y D R I Z Z L E R D C V S
 E M W Y B R C E X W Z D F U U
 D O I L A W C X F V B H O K N
 N R N Y D G Y L B G F T G E S
 U C D S X E R U O P A S E D H
 H A W R T M N J U U K M N B I
 T J I K O R P M N B D C E W N
 X Q A Z B O M J Y H G S F R E
 A L I G H T N I N G T Y H U L
 F M T X W S L P D X Z E R T L
 Q D M X T H I T W T R D W V P
 Z V N J R D Q S G K J O B G F
 C M I S T P U O F C N E S X Z
 B G T R F C D R W S X Z A Q W
 M L P I U G F F W S A H A I L

SUNSHINE
 SNOW
 WIND

CLLOUDS
 MIST
 LIGHTNING

DRIZZLE
 HAIL
 FROST

FOG
 THUNDER
 STORM



You will need:

- A clear glass or similar see-through container
- Warm water
- Ice
- Metal or foil dish

Instructions:

1. Place the ice into the metal dish.
2. Pour a small amount of warm water into the bottom of the glass.
3. Wait until the dish is really cold. Then place it on top of the glass.
4. Watch the inside carefully. You should see a 'cloud' form near the top of the glass

What kind of shorts
do clouds wear?
Thunderwear!

What bow can't be
tied?

A rainbow!

What falls but never
hits the ground?
The temperature!



When rain gathers on the ground sometimes it can form a puddle, the puddle can change size during the day which you can measure.

What you will need:

- A puddle
- A piece of chalk

Instructions:

1. Choose a day when there has been rain overnight and the rest of the day is expected to be dry, warm and sunny.
2. Choose a puddle and first thing in the morning use a piece of chalk to draw around the puddle.
3. A few hours later go back and draw around your puddle again. Repeat this several times during the day.

This page sponsored by



KH

Kevin Hollings
KITCHEN STUDIO



Unit 14 Lodge Works, Stowmarket Road,
Old Newton, IP14 4EE
01449 257160 www.kevinhollings.com
info@kevinhollingskitchens.co.uk



House completions



Will writing



Family matters



Business legal advice

“It’s business as usual...

We may be working slightly differently
but we’ve never been closer to our clients”



Burnett Barker
Solicitors

Call 01284 701131
or visit www.burnettbarker.co.uk

Arboricultural & Landscaping Solutions

- All Aspects of Tree Surgery
- Soft & Hard Landscapping
- Maintenance & Lawn Care
- Fencing
- Domestic & Commercial
- Fully Insured
- NPTC Qualified

For more information please visit:
www.greenscenetreesurgery.co.uk



GREEN SCENE

PLEASE CONTACT US TODAY FOR FREE QUOTATIONS & ADVICE

Phone: 01359 298141 Mobile: 07866 866 880

Email: greenscene@hotmail.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - December 2021



The December meeting of the Parish Council convened in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne on Monday 20th with 7 councillors present, together with the Parish Clerk, and Ward Members Cllrs Helen Geake and Andy Mellen and 2 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 various Annual Reports as tabled at the meeting are printed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available online at [elsmswell.suffolk.cloud](https://www.elsmswell.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 November Ordinary 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 Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have secured over £248,000 in funding from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to ensure privately rented properties in Suffolk meet minimum energy standards, ensuring warmer homes. Meanwhile, MSDC's licencing team have now licensed the first EV taxi in the district. The operator will be logging his running costs, charge locations, and experience to help the team shape a future EV policy and encourage other drivers to make the switch in future. Other topics covered included:

- The new carpark at Woolpit Health Centre was officially opened on Nov 5th and has already been used for the recent vaccination clinics. Currently access is via the existing health centre carpark, but once more homes are occupied on the adjacent housing development access will be via Old Stowmarket Road.
- Babergh and MSDC worked with parish councils during National Tree Week (27th Nov – 5th Dec) to plant nearly 5,000 trees to help tackle biodiversity loss.
- An online poll to choose the name for the new visitor centre at Needham Lake concluded last month and the name 'Duck & Teapot' was announced at the topping-out ceremony. The visitor centre and café will be a big boost to the district's most popular tourist attraction and is due to open in early 2022.

Suffolk County Council

Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report confirming a £12.8m. investment to ensure that Council buildings become carbon neutral. This is in response to the Council's climate emergency that was declared back in 2019, and includes offices, fire stations, libraries, and others that are owned by Suffolk County Council. Schools are not a part of this investment, as many are academies, and only a few are owned by the Council. The Report also detailed two successful motions to the council by the Opposition Group which brought attention to road safety in Suffolk, the first to ensure that the County Council commit to enforcing 20mph zones, in light of the newly amended Highway Code, making

it clear that all speed limits within a red circle are obligatory - including a 20mph limit - and the second asking the County Council to confirm its responsibility to make our roads safer for Suffolk residents and visitors, by committing to further education, enforcement, and engineering. Further commitments include expanding the Bikeability scheme, meaningful engagement via a visit from a Road Safety Specialist to every school at least once every academic year, and more coordination between services. Both these motions were passed with cross-party support and only minor amendments.

Auditor

The Council is audited at 3 levels each year. It appoints an Internal Auditor who spends a day with full access to the Council accounts and records towards a formal report and confirmation to the Government appointed External Auditors of the probity of Councils practices and procedures including the end-of-year accounts. Elmswell Parish Council has a practice of changing the Internal Auditor every 3 years to avoid over-familiarity and to introduce fresh eyes on its affairs. Accordingly, Dave Crimmin was agreed as Auditor for the 2021 /2022 year's activities on the basis of his wide experience as auditor, consultant and mentor to the town and parish council sector.

Planning at Warren Lane / Cresmedow Way

The Clerk reported on his attendance at the Mid Suffolk Development Control Committee A on 8th December at Endeavour House to confirm EPC's objection to the Planning application ref DC/21/02956. This was on grounds that the extension to the original site, which gained permission in 2018 for 38 dwellings creating a southern development boundary contiguous with that proposed in the emerging JLP site allocation plan, would open up access to the east encouraging development to link up with the new Wetherden Road estate. Further, that it proposed bringing housing much closer to the problematic nuisance from the Lawn Farm Quarry site which is expanding to meet the new proposed development envelope. He suggested that it seemed unlikely that Members would vote to refuse the application given the previous Permission upon which this one is predicated and argued that a deferral would give the Applicant a chance to pull back to the original boundary, thus satisfying EPC's principal objections. There was strong support for this

case from Cllrs Mansel and Geake and an eventual admission from the Case Officer that the recently granted permission for expansion of the quarry site had not been taken into account. The Application was, by unanimous vote, deferred and the Clerk undertook to seek to reiterate and strengthen EPC's arguments at the deferred hearing in favour of reverting to the original southern boundary of the site and, effectively, of the village.

Planning results

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

DC/21/05504 Erection of rear extension to form 2 holiday apartments... Kiln Farm Guest House GRANTED

DC/19/04317 Application for non-material Amendment... Holly Lodge, Cross Street APPROVED

DC/21/05840 Erection of single-storey rear/side extension.... 5, Lyle Close GRANTED
DC/21/05727 Approval of reserved matters 6no dwellings... Land South of Field View APPROVED

DC/21/05842 Erection of first floor side extension...7 Mill Gardens GRANTED

Planning applications

The Meeting agreed to support applications for an extension at 20, Rowan Green, a garage at 3, Thedwastre Close and for a re-submission relating to 2 dwellings to the rear of Woodstock and Orchard House on Ashfield Road.

Objections were made to 3 other Applications, being:

DC/21/06333 Development of a petrol station, a drive-thru restaurant and coffee shop, together with various infrastructure and landscaping works Land off A14 Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons:

1 SCC objections on the basis of highway safety include measures to reduce the likelihood of right turns into the site from the A1088. These have been removed from the current proposal. However, whilst the previous pre-application advice does not mention this issue, it does not state that the concern is no longer relevant. It should be agreed and reinstated as there is a risk of this manoeuvre being attempted or carried out due to the contrived route from the westbound A14 and non-standard access arrangements of the proposal.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT - December 2021

2 The previous application was refused for reasons which included an unacceptable highway egress arrangement. Previous pre-application advice (DC/19/05865) states: According to DMRB Vol 6 Section 2, figure 4.14, 'Weaving length diagram for Urban Roads' gives an absolute minimum measurement of 100m for 50km (30mph). at present, there is approximately only 40m which includes a merge lane. Therefore, evidence would be required to allow the acceptance of lower standards with regard to the merging between the exit point of the site and the roundabout. DMRB TD 22/06 has been withdrawn but there are also requirements in CD 122 relating to this and any departure from standard from that will need to be fully justified in order for the Highway Authority to change their position. It is noted that Currently CD 122 is also currently withdrawn.

3 The Transport Assessment does not address the shortcomings in the weaving length. The Summary & Conclusions on pages 30 & 31 contain an unacceptable level of conjecture, with references such as "modelling suggests" instead of clear, unequivocal statements.

4 The potential for vehicles queuing on the A14 at the eastbound and westbound diverge slip roads has been ignored. This is a very real possibility at peak times.

5 NPPF paragraph 112 states that applications for development should:

(a) give priority first to pedestrian and cycle movements, both within the scheme and with neighbouring areas;

(b) facilitate access to high quality public transport, with layouts that maximise the catchment area for bus or other public transport services, and appropriate facilities that encourage public transport use;

(c) address the needs of people with disabilities and reduced mobility in relation to all modes of transport;

(d) create places that are safe, secure and attractive – which minimise the scope for conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, avoid unnecessary street clutter, and respond to local character and design standards;

The application signally fails to satisfy all of these requirements.

6 The Transport Assessment relies upon the 'understanding' that this application will benefit from the 'proposed' Elmswell-Woolpit footway/cycle link (Community Path). This aspirational scheme is un-costed and remains as an extremely problematic project meaning it would, if progressed, be something to be delivered many years hence. It has no relevance in mitigating the harm that this application proposes.

7 The Applicant's own Assessment is for 224 extra vehicles per hour at the roundabout during peak periods and accepts that the traffic load would exceed capacity on the west-bound slip junction.

Given the failure to take into account the local developments since the TA was commissioned including the new HGV-based businesses at Lawn Farm Business Park (Bacton Transport / Precon Products), the substantial and growing number of houses at both Woolpit and Elmswell and the outline Planning permission for a new primary school serving both Woolpit and Elmswell, the Assessment in no way serves to reflect the true position with regard to highway safety.

8 Included in the developments which have secured Planning permission in the interim is the requirement for 2 roundabouts. One at Woolpit immediately off A14 to serve the large housing estate and primary school and one at Church Hill, Elmswell to mitigate the problems attending access to the new development at School Road. Both of these impediments to traffic flows need to be taken into account when assessing this proposal and this is, clearly, not the case.

9 It is impractical to suggest that, merely by not signing the facility for HGV use, this will mean that large lorries will not pull in for refreshment and comfort breaks. The difficulties in leaving the site, as already highlighted, will be compounded to a hazardous degree when the site becomes accepted as a truck-stop facility.

DC/21/06379 Erection of 19 No. dwellings (including 6 No. affordable) and construction of new vehicular accesses. Land East of Ashfield Road
Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons: The site is in the countryside outside of the Settlement Boundary within which new development will properly take place.

With regard to the strong policy imperatives aimed at protecting the existing character and appearance of the countryside, this proposal offers no justification for exceptional treatment and does not present a case for special consideration under categories identified and defined in the Local Plan, the Core Strategy or the National Planning Policy Framework.
Councillors make this statement with reference to the following factors:

1 MSDC has achieved a Housing Land Supply of more than 5 years. The Draft 5YHLS position statement November 2021 indicates that there is a 9.5 year housing land supply, almost double what government requires. In line with NPPF objectives in paras 78 and 83, Planning permission has been granted for substantial housing growth within or adjoining the Elmswell settlement boundary, and delivery of these developments is well advanced. On this basis, there should be no overriding presumption in favour of development that does not meet local policies. While some previously adopted policies are "out of date" and to be replaced in the new draft Local Plan, many are still aligned with objectives of the NPPF.

2 Most relevant here are FC1 and FC1.1 regarding Sustainable Development, CS5 relating to natural landscape and Mid Suffolk's environment, which aligns with

NPPF 127 and 170. The conflicts with these policies and guidance are material considerations. The proposal is an extension into the countryside, with no exceptional justification, and is harmful to the open rural character and landscape of the area.

3 This proposal does not constitute sustainable development using the NPPF overarching economic, social and environmental objectives. The economic benefit of construction employment is short term, and the contribution to the local economy from occupiers would be very modest. The social benefit is questionable, given the distance and difficulty in reaching village facilities and activities on foot. There would be no environmental benefit, rather the incursion of buildings into the countryside would diminish the natural landscape, habitat and biodiversity.

4 This is not an 'exception' site providing affordable housing, and would not make any significant contribution to the vitality of the village.

5 Considering these points, together with the NPPF as a whole and policies FC1 and FC1.1, the proposal cannot be judged to be a sustainable development.

6 There is no pavement on Grove Lane or part of Ashfield Road and footpaths across the fields to the village are only recreational, not level, unlit, and virtually unusable in/after bad weather. The lack of close, convenient and safe access to facilities by walking or cycling means greater reliance on car journeys. Grove Lane is not wide enough to safely accommodate passing vehicles and pedestrians and cyclists. The lane is heavily used by a variety of commercial traffic, much of which gives little consideration to the residents. There is considerable use by extremely large vehicles, which are unable to pass each other without driving on to the verge. Grove Lane cannot be regarded as inherently safe for children, the elderly or those with animals. It cannot be considered a sustainable location for additional dwellings

7 The site is an uncultivated grassed field surrounded by hedges, making a high-profile positive contribution to the appearance of the local landscape and potential for biodiversity and wildlife habitat. The proposal seeks to disrupt the existing pattern of development and the village's transition into open countryside. Regardless of design, any type of built form would harm the open countryside, with no appreciable public or local benefit to outweigh that harm. This is contrary to policies GP1, FC1.1, CS5 and CL8, which require developments to conserve and enhance the local character and respect the local distinctiveness of Mid Suffolk, including its natural landscape and protection of biodiversity. As these policies are broadly aligned with objectives in paragraphs 127 and 170 of the NPPF, this conflict must be given significant weight.

8 The proposal seeks to create an enclave whose residents would be dependent on car use to reach village facilities and amenities. In effect, it seeks to create a large satellite population with no sustainable means of

connection to the village. The Transport Statement quotes NPPF paras 108-110 on highway objectives: "That it is safe for all users" and "That it promotes sustainable, high-quality alternatives to the private car and to achieve developments accessible to all vehicles and people". The proposal flies in the face of both of these strictures and goes further to suggest that the lack of a pavement from Grove Lane as far as Oak Lane is not a problem as pedestrians can use the grass verge as a walking route to and from the village. Local residents have long complained about the lack of a proper pavement on this part of Ashfield Road and have warned of near misses with the large volume of cars and HGVs that use it. The verge is uneven, muddy, subject to erosion by large vehicles and encroachment by hedges, dangerous to walk along in bad weather and in the dark, and impossible for anyone pushing a buggy, holding onto small children or carrying shopping. It is completely impassable for anyone who has reduced mobility. There is no verge at all on the other side of the road, forcing pedestrians going towards Grove Lane from the village to walk with their backs to the traffic, contrary to Highway Code rules. This is especially dangerous if an obstruction forces pedestrians to step into the carriageway. This verge is neither safe nor high-quality, and to suggest that it constitutes a safe walking route to village amenities betrays a cynical disregard for pedestrian safety on the part of the applicant.

9 Suffolk County Council Highways Officers highlight exactly these concerns in their formal Objection which confirms that the proposal presents, in terms of NPPF paragraph 111, 'an unacceptable impact on highway safety.'

DC/21/06401 Application for Outline Planning Permission (access to be considered, all other matters reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Severance of garden and erection of 1 No. detached dwelling Beech Glade, Bennett Avenue

Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons;

1 Bennett Avenue was developed in a considered and balanced manner with high density houses, including some 'quarter homes', at its eastern extremity and with

substantial dwellings in their own spacious plots towards its junction with Cooks Road.

- 2 The application site is one of the distinctive and individual dwellings which define the character of the immediate neighbourhood. The spacious layout, substantial plots and individual character of these houses were, significantly, taken up by the adjacent and subsequent development at Grange Meadows thus reinforcing the special nature of the street scene.
- 3 This proposal seeks to increase the housing density one of these key sites and destroy the cohesive pattern which defines the area. It would set a precedent for cramped overdevelopment and urbanisation harmful to the amenity and appearance of the surrounding dwellings and is out of keeping with the character of the locality and the prevailing street scene at this end of Bennett Avenue. It is inappropriate to its setting and would be to the significant detriment of the existing residential amenity
- 4 The addition of traffic at this site, which is close to a blind bend off which a T junction serves the Oxe Close development and Elmswell Community Primary School, would exacerbate an already hazardous highways situation destined to worsen in light of the recent permission to expand the school.

Precept

The Meeting agreed to set a precept of £189,555.00 for the next financial year. This is derived from the Council Tax and is calculated to cover a budget which includes continuing with the community improvements at Wesley and Blackbourne as well as funding the village's administrative and day-to-day costs together with encouraging the schemes at the Elmswell Tavern and the Elmswell Community Land Trust affordable homes until those enterprises become self-supporting.

Rooflights at Blackbourne

In November 2020 the Blackbourne and Wesley Management Association mooted the idea of installing 6 electrically controlled roof lights, with automatic rain-check and blackout blinds in the roof of the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne This addressed the lack of natural light

in the venue and, critically, the lack of ventilation which the recent extension had unsuccessfully sought to address. This latter aspect became and remains very significant in a post-Covid world. During an initial survey of the job it was apparent that the circa 25 year life-span of the original roof (installed 1998) may be nearing end of life cycle and that it might be appropriate to replace the steel sheets as part of a larger job. An application for CIL funding could not be made for the re-roofing element (maintenance) but was made for the skylights (improvements). With the benefit of quotations from various companies and a detailed analysis provided by Cllr Pallett based on his professional experience in this field, the Meeting resolved that Messrs Cladspray Solutions be contracted to install rooflights and re-coat the original steel profile roofing providing an extension of 25 year life. CIL funds will cover half of the total cost.

Road Safety

The Meeting agreed to purchase a third Speed Indicator Device (SID) to allow coverage at Wetherden Road in the sum of £4,380.00 and that a village Road Safety review be undertaken towards seeking joint initiatives and funding with SCC regarding several potential accident black spots in the village.

Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for Monday 17th January 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.



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.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
22nd	21st	21st	19th	24th

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

Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access.

Staffed Mondays – Thursdays 9.00am – 12.00 noon and at other times by arrangement

clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

Tel. 244134 www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud



VILLAGE INDEX

Useful contacts for community groups & others...feedback is essential.

Do be in touch to correct or add details or to suggest someone else deserving of listing.

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	eea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	John Welford	welford955@btinternet.com	240166
Baby & Toddler Group	Donna Hughes	elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
Beavers	Ruth 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	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.Mansell@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	Gemma Sutton	gem_2910@hotmail.co.uk	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Library	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Oil buying Group		elmswelloil@gmail.com	07813829008
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Marion Abbott	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Paula Hollings	ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 562485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Sewing Bee	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	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 - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

January 2022

- 10 2.00pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church Mr Hitchcock talking about, Tools With A Mission (TWAM)
- 13 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell History Group, 7.30 at Blackbourne. Speaker Jenny Seggar: Burial Practices from Anglo-Saxon to Victorian

CANCELLED

February 2022

- 7 2.00pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church Beetle Drive and Cookery demonstration
- 10 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday

- 10 Elmswell History Group, 7.30 at Blackbourne. Speaker Andrew Peachey: Archaeology on Anglia One's Cable Route
- 25 ELF wine tasting of South African wines with refreshments. Tickets £15 each available from Elmswell Library Commencing 7:30pm

March 2022

- 10 Elmswell History Group, 7.30 at Blackbourne. Speaker Jenny Seggar: Burial Practices from Anglo-Saxon to Victorian

April 2022

- 14 Elmswell History Group 22nd Anniversary meeting, 7.30 at Blackbourne. Speaker Clare Gapper: Decorative Plasterwork in Elizabethan & Jacobean Suffolk

May 2022

- 12 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; 7.30 at Blackbourne. Speaker Christopher Parkinson: History of East Anglia's Stained Glass Windows

June 2022

- 9 Elmswell History Group 2021-22 AGM at 7pm, at Blackbourne. - immediately followed at 7.30pm by Speaker Jacquie Norman: Tudor Costume in the time of Henry VIII

July 2022

- 14 Elmswell History Group Annual Outing - to be confirmed. Details and Tickets from 01359-242601

STOP PRESS

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

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

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

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

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

BOWLS - ann.richards47@gmail.com

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

FOOTBALL - shaun.pratt@btinternet.com 07494 864231

RAINBOWS - elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com

JUNIOR FOOTBALL - smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591

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 9.30 - 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

BATS - badminton, table tennis, pool at Blackbourne Fridays from 7.30 - edmondspeterj@gmail.com

CARPET BOWLS - Wednesday 7.00pm 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 6 months we need copy by: January 25th, February 26th, March 22nd, April 26th

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

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

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

Reg. Charity No. 304879. 2,000+ copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



BULBS - ALTERNATORS - SHOCK ABSORBERS - COIL SPRINGS - WHEEL ALIGNMENT - REPAIRS - MOT PREP - WHEEL BALANCING - PUNCTURE REPAIRS

KEY BATTERY REPLACEMENT - STARTER MOTORS - SPARK PLUGS - ELECTRICAL FAULTS - AIR BAG FAULTS - ENGINE MANAGEMENT LIGHTS - TPMS RESET

PROMECH

We cater for ALL your vehicle needs

SERVICING

ProMech Elmswell

MOT CENTRE

ProMech Elmswell

REPAIRS

ProMech Elmswell

DIAGNOSTICS

ProMech Elmswell

EXHAUSTS

ProMech Elmswell

TYRES

ProMech Elmswell

SUSPENSION

ProMech Elmswell

TRACKING

ProMech Elmswell

CLUTCHES

ProMech Elmswell

BRAKES

ProMech Elmswell

BATTERIES

ProMech Elmswell

AIR CON REGAS

ProMech Elmswell

RECOVERY

ProMech Elmswell

COURTESY CARS

ProMech Elmswell

**CAMBELT/ CHAIN
REPLACEMENT**

ProMech Elmswell

**ACCIDENT
DAMAGE**

ProMech Elmswell



Happy New Year!

Collection & Delivery Service Available

01359 242420

Find us at: Station Road Industrial Estate, Elmswell, IP30 9HR