

'Like a friend dropping in'



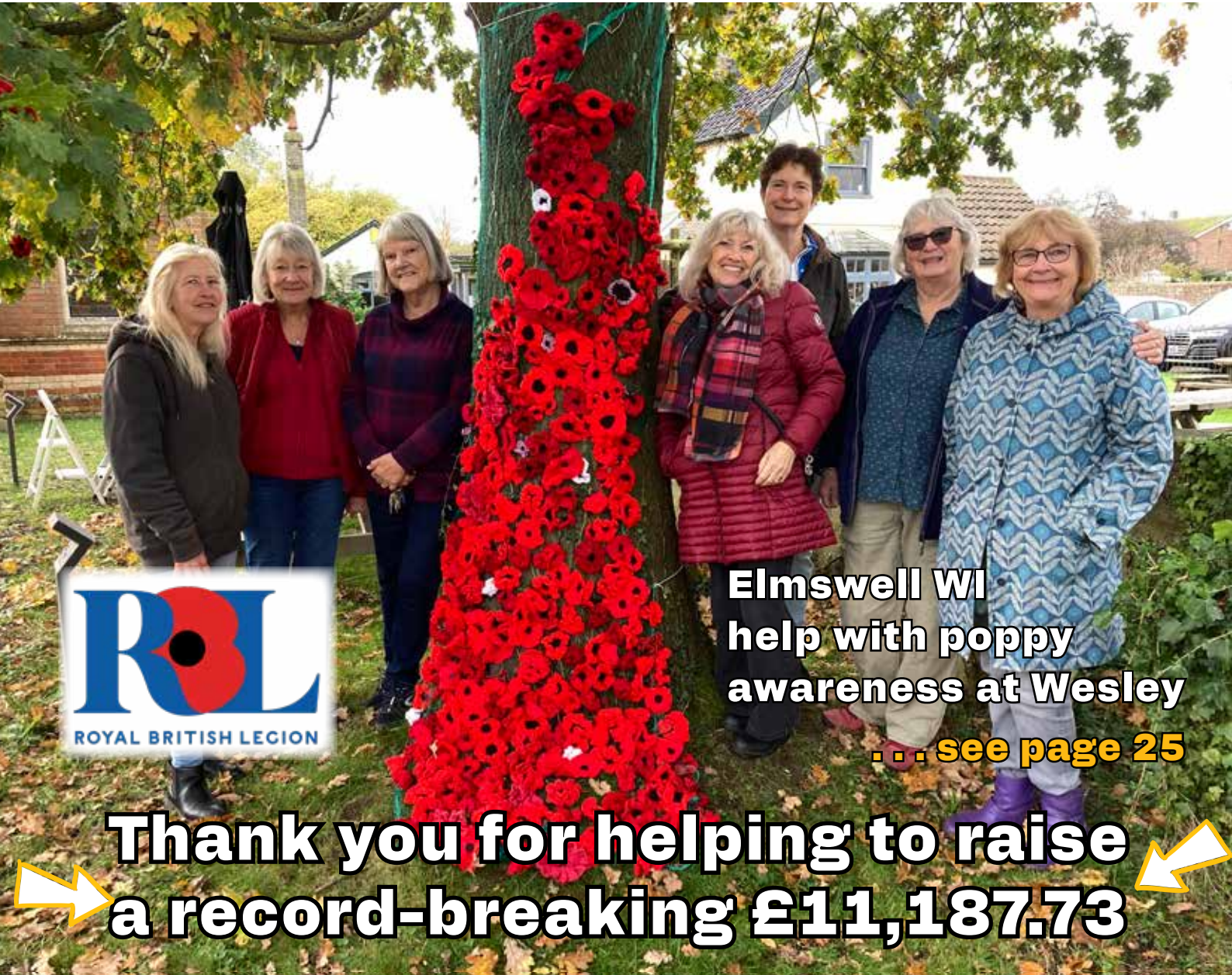
# The Elmswell Newsletter



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

DECEMBER 2023

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



Elmswell WI help with poppy awareness at Wesley  
... see page 25

**Thank you for helping to raise a record-breaking £11,187.73**



Come & join us for another Winter warmer Pie & Mash Tuesday 23rd January 1pm

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879. 2332 copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

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**Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.**

**If you wish to comment, please do so via the office or by email at; [eea.elmswell.org.uk](mailto:eea.elmswell.org.uk)**

**We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.**



## Elmswell ploughs on...

30 years ago Dick Burch ploughed a double furrow around our new land at Blackbourne Meadow so that we could plant the magnificent hedge that is there today.

Last week he was back for an encore around the new 6 acres. He hasn't lost a knack gained over 70 years. Part of a community working together...

**It's that time again. We are programmed to take a pause, to reflect and to consider what has flowed under the bridge of 2023 and what might be rushing towards us, effluent-and-all, as 2024 approaches. Over the past 30 years we have dutifully offered something to reflect on amidst the festivities.**

**In 1993, our Guest Editor, Tony Jupp, suggested,**

*"Today the gulf between rich and poor is getting greater as central government restricts local spending. I think the only way forward is for local communities to work together to help build up a more caring way of life. To this end, the village desperately needs a community centre so the elderly, disabled, unemployed, single parents, playgroups, mums, etc. In fact, the community can get together to help and encourage each other in whatever way they choose to do."*

**Looking at Blackbourne today, it is fair to say that that the efforts to fulfil Tony's suggestion went rather well.**

**10 years on, in 2003, as Sergeant Pepper was tutoring his band,**

**Mary Feeney was asked to write a piece which confirmed:**

*"Elmswell's newest community conservation project, Elmswell Community Wood, has its official launch in March with the opening of the first tree nursery on land beside the Memorial Library."*

**Again, wander down to LukesWood this weekend...from little acorns...**

**A decade later, in 2013, we celebrated our 4<sup>th</sup> award**

**as Suffolk's Newsletter of the Year, noted as relying upon,**

*"some 36 distributors...to some 1700 households...for the past 27 years...with £50,000.00 granted to the Blackbourne project from advertising",*

**now grown to 47 distributors and 1330 copies – another rolling success story for Elmswell.**

**And today, in 2023, can we still offer a positive outlook?**

Considering the 1993 advice do we still consider, *'the only way forward is for local communities to work together to help build up a more caring way of life.'* If so, is this still reflected in the way Elmswell is going forward?

We suggest a resounding, 'yes'.

For those who do take the time to flick through our pages, we offer positive signs:

- ✓ News from 14 of our many clubs and societies which, despite trends elsewhere, seem to thrive and grow offering many opportunities for us to meet and mix.
- ✓ Finally, we have a Neighbourhood Plan to help ensure that the inevitable development pressure for more houses is no longer a free-for-all.
- ✓ A record contribution from Elmswell to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – we clearly have an eye to the welfare of others beyond our own little world
- ✓ Carols at the Elmswell Tavern...the partnership with Wesley flourishes as the pop-up-pub plies its trade next door to the mulled wine and mince pies to the unmistakable sound of Norton Salvation Army band to encapsulate Christmas with everyone invited and welcome.
- ✓ More Tavern good news as the scheme reaches Planning permission submission stage and as the Parish Council Report confirms progress on the all important funding front with a new Mid Suffolk initiative.
- ✓ Wesley continuing to flourish and grow – the car park is soon to be extended to cope and the successful 'Wesley Winter Warmer' events are set to continue with Pie & Mash in January.
- ✓ Our Taxi Bus scheme has proved its worth over 5 months and looks set to continue.

It would be risking derision to hope that we can anticipate a 'Happy New Year'.

But if we continue to be mindful of advice that has served us well over at least the past 3 decades, here in Elmswell, things could be far, far worse.

***The only way forward is for local communities to work together to help build up a more caring way of life.***





## ELMSWELL ART CLUB

This month, we would like to profile a well-known TV personality who, perhaps surprisingly, also happens to be an accomplished artist.

Born in Leeds in 1959, Jim Moir first came to prominence as a comedian, actor, and musician with the stage alias, 'Vic Reeves'; however, long before the character of Vic Reeves brought success, Moir was a practicing artist. He says; "People think that I am a comedian, but art comes first".... he studied Fine Art Foundation at Sir John Cass College in 1983, which led to a curator position at The Gardner Gallery and his first exhibition in 1985.

The influence of Pop Art giants from the 1960s such as Gilbert and George, Andy Warhol, and Peter Blake is evident within his paintings; often dreamlike and peppered with satirical humour. He maintains that, when he started doing comedy it was kind of a side-line to his artwork; "all day long I'm going to paint pictures. That's what I like doing."

More recently, he can be seen in his TV programme "Painting Birds with Jim and Nancy Moir" during which they are guided by their guests (twitchers, artists and conservation experts) as they venture through wild countryside and local bird sanctuaries to gather inspiration, their challenge being to create an original piece of bird art celebrating the unique species native to that region over the course of a weekend.



*"Comedy and art go hand in hand, even if it's not laugh-out-loud. I paint or sketch for two, three hours every day. It keeps me sane."*

Many of our members produce excellent paintings of birds, some of which have been featured in past editions of this Newsletter article. Two more are featured below;

Our first feathered friend is a Wheatear perched on pebbles; a watercolour painting by Ann Smith. The Wheatear is a little larger than a Robin and used to be abundant in the UK, however it has been in decline in recent years due to the changing landscapes in which it breeds. It is migratory and spends the winter in Central Africa.



Our third picture is Brenda Thompson's watercolour of a Scottish Loch scene



The second avian-related picture is Carol Taylor's watercolour painting of a sparrow.



Eddie Douglas

**ELMSWELL ART CLUB  
MEETS EVERY  
TUESDAY FROM  
09:00 TO 12:00  
AT THE WESLEY  
AND NEW MEMBERS  
ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**



**WE WISH ALL ELMSWELL NEWSLETTER READERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS

at the Elmswell Tavern

with The Norton Salvation Army Band

**Wednesday 20th December**

Pop-up bar opens 6.30 – carols at 7.00pm  
plus mulled wine at Wesley

**EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME**

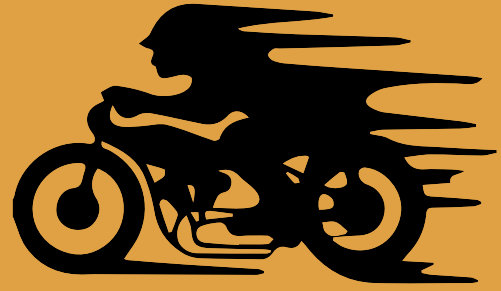


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## ELMSWELL EXCHANGE W.I.

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting and one birthday gift was presented.

Our speaker this month was Richard Symes a volunteer at Dunwich Heath, an area owned by the National Trust. His subject was the history of Dunwich Heath which used to be called Dunwich Common and renamed in 1968.

He told us that in the 1700's there was a Preventative Station at Dunwich as that coast line was a hot spot for smuggling. John Harvey was a notorious smuggler who had a house and land in Hadleigh bought from the profits of smuggling. Gangs of sixty to eighty men would turn up on horseback to empty the ships. They were ruthless and would throw the preventative officers into the water or beat them up. John's gang were interested in dry goods such as tea and tobacco. He was caught in 1747 and deported to Australia. After seven years he returned to England and his wife and children and returned to smuggling. He was caught again and this time bought his freedom with a hatful of gold!

The 1800's brought the Industrial Revolution. Heavy goods were transported by ship and five hundred could go along the coastline every day. Due to heavy loads and storms there were at least two hundred shipwrecks and some remains can still be seen. Richard Clark was a coastguard at this time and refused to fight in the Crimean War. His wife and family were evicted as he was arrested. He was a Quaker and other Quakers launched a campaign to release him and John Bright argued his case in the Houses of Parliament and Richard was released. He was probably one of the first conscientious objectors to win his case.

Dunwich played an important part in the first and second world wars. Lots of mines were put along the coast to protect our shipping. In the Second World War it became a radar station. There were eight thousand personnel based at Dunwich. After both wars there were extensive clean ups so the public could use the area again. In 1957 there was a fire on the Heath due to an explosion and in 1960 the MOD employed Eastern European soldiers to search the area for unexploded ordnance.

In 1967 the National Trust took over Dunwich Heath.

The competition this month was a bird in any medium. First was Mary Chown, second place was Margaret Hitchins and third was Maureen Lazarus.

Next month will be our Christmas celebration and Tricia will demonstrate how to make a wreath and a cracker.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

*Carol Blissett*

## ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

By the time that you all read this edition of the newsletter we will only have two events remaining this year there being a meeting on December 6th which will be a Cash Bingo evening this is followed on Saturday December 16th when we will set down to enjoy our Xmas Party meal provided by Home Farm Catering. The evening will continue with music provided by Bob Whiting so there will be dancing till late, this will bring our club meetings to a close for 2023 which I hope you have enjoyed so I would like to say a big thank you to all the members and committee for supporting me throughout the year.

It is now time to have a short break to recharge the batteries and put some thoughts towards the programme for 2024 ready for a resumption on Thursday February 15th.

Finally wishing all the members and friends a very happy Christmas and a best wishes for 2024 from Myself and all the committee.

*Diann 241002*

## ELMSWELL WI

Brenda welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mandi Cox-Osborne, the Poppy Appeal Manager for Suffolk. (Our speaker).

She told us about the history of the Royal British Legion, which has supported service personnel and their families since 1921.

In 1948, Professor Moira Michael found the poem "In Flanders Fields", written by Joh McCrae, after burying his friend, during World War 1. She was very moved by this story and decided to distribute poppies in aid of the soldiers. The poppy became the emblem for the Legion. Donations are always voluntary.

Eventually, the poppies were made by disabled people in a factory in Richmond. Originally, they were made of silk and then plastic. Now they are plastic free, and 'green'.

All military personnel and their families are supported by the money raised, when they are in need. Therapy, counselling, employment advice and financial support are some of the ways which the Legion helps people.

A five day course at the Battle Back Centre, helps people recover from trauma. There are also six care homes across the county.

Each year on the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month, a two minute silence is held in memory of all those people who sacrificed their lives, so that we can enjoy peace. We remember them all, with thanks, and the Royal British Legion hosts the Remembrance Ceremony in London each year.

George V instigated the two minute silence and the Legion became "Royal" in 1951.

It was very interesting to learn more about the Poppy Appeal and all the wonderful work made possible by the money raised.

Next month, we are looking forward to our Christmas Party!



*Rosie Collins 01359 241652*



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## ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

The club held its final meeting of the year on Tuesday 21st November. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th February 2024.

During the first part of the meeting we held our AGM. The majority of the committee remain the same, and we were delighted to welcome two new members onto the team - Dave and Mike.

However, we were very sorry that Catherine felt it was time to stand down as Chair of the committee. She held this role for over ten years and kept the group going through some very tough times. Catherine instigated a number of new ideas and saw an increase in membership during her leadership. In addition to this role, Catherine was largely responsible for organising a varied programme and ensuring the smooth running of meetings. She also stepped into assist in other ways wherever necessary.

The club members are most grateful for her wonderful contribution, not only to the club but to village life. It's impossible to underestimate the amount of time and effort that goes into running a successful group and Catherine gave unstintingly in her wish to keep the group interesting, relevant and involved in village life.

As a small token of our sincere thanks, Catherine was presented with a gift card to spend, appropriately, at a garden centre of her choice.

We wish our new chair, Dave, every success and greatly appreciate his offer to take on this role and feel confident that the club can continue to build on a very firm foundation.

Following our AGM we enjoyed a fascinating talk from three members of Elmswild. It is astonishing to see photographs of how the orchard and Luke's Wood have developed over the last few years. We were able to see recordings showing the creatures that now inhabit the area and the spread of trees and wild plants. Elmswell is so fortunate to have people willing to give time and effort in this way.



We were reminded about the hedge planting at The Blackbourne, organised by Elmswild, and several of the members were looking forward to helping with this.

We wish everyone a joyous Christmas and look forward to welcoming old members and new in February.

**If you'd like to know more about the club please email [elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com)**

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## CITIZENS ADVICE

I am a single parent with two kids and I'm really worried about how I'll afford to pay my energy bills when I have to start putting the heating and lights on more now winter is here. At the moment I just about have enough money to cover my bills but there is nothing left over. The thought of getting into debt keeps me awake at night but the idea of my children being cold and possibly unwell as a result is just unbearable. What can I do?

You are not alone - a record number of people came to Citizens Advice with energy debt in the first four months of 2023 (32,400) - a 112% increase on the same period in 2020 (15,200).

There are things you can do to feel in control when it comes to your energy bills. These tips won't cover all the extra costs, but they can make a difference:

- Check your thermostat: A room temperature between 18°C and 21°C is ideal for most people. Try turning your thermostat down by one degree within this range – it could save you around £115 a year. If a medical condition means you need a warmer home, ask your GP what room temperature you should aim for.

- Keep the heat in: Check your home for any gaps in the doors, windows and floors. Blocking any holes where you could get a draught could save you around £30 a year. It is important to allow for some ventilation as without it mould and damp can form.

- Turn off anything you're not using: Turning your appliances, like TVs and washing machines, off instead of leaving them on standby could save around £60 a year. Turning off lights when you're not using them – even if it's just off for a few seconds – could save around £25 a year.

- Consider using LED lightbulbs, which cost less to run.
- Watch your water usage: Cutting your shower time by just one minute can make a difference. If everyone in a four-person household with a water meter did this, they could save around £75 a year.

If you're struggling to afford your energy bills, you don't have to deal with it alone. Get in touch with Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk and you can get free advice on the help available to you.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at [midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us). Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

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The Parish Councils of Beyton, Elmswell, Thurston & Woolpit have come together to try to address the problems caused by the loss of our bus service.

The trial run throughout July & August is now extended until 31st December offering a return trip into Bury (Angel Hill) every Wednesday and Saturday

- ✓ The return fare from Elmswell is £6.00
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- ✓ Leaving Wesley car park in Elmswell between 9.30 & 9.45 am – gets to Bury about 10.30 having called at Woolpit, Beyton & Thurston
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## ELMSWELL FOOTPATH WALK SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2023

On a sombre overcast Remembrance Sunday five parishioners met at Crown Mill at 11.00 am for a period of reflective silence to show their respects for the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

With the grey skies threatening we set off intending to beat the forecast rain by ensuring a timeous return to the village sign.

Our well trodden route of FP10 and FP9 took us north and east until FP9 turned right towards Lord's Bridge and we carried straight onto FP23 and hence, through the gate, to the fields of Mutton Hall.



Skirting the north and east boundaries of the first field the group crossed under the railway bridge then continuing east adjacent to the railway and then turning right and walking alongside Captain's Lane exiting Mutton Hall at Hunters Lodge.

A right here took us through the copse with splendid autumnal colours in evidence as shown in the inset photograph.

Emerging from the copse by the now overflowing pond we progressed on to RB46 and, wending our way south, enjoyed the woodland tunnel until we turned left into the open field that is FP33.

Crossing Captain's Land FP33 morphed into FP32 alongside the horse meadows emerging on to Kate's Lane adjacent to the impressive new oak framed house now nearing completion.

Across the Elmswell Road and up past the busy Wetherden Baptist Church we took FP51 past the allotments and plantation heading south east and meeting up at junction of FP23 and FP25A where we turned right on to FP25A.

Now heading northeast back towards Elmswell we traversed across the top of Wetherden Warren with pleasant views across to Haughley Park, on past Warren Mill House and then turned right on to FP21 next to the conifer plantation.

A left on to FP20 took us along the back of the now complete Crest Nicholson development, down to Mill Gardens where we crossed the Wetherden Road took the track up to Clay Field and hence back along the roads to the village sign and all in time to beat the weather.

A walk of exactly 4.00 miles in 1 hour 46 minutes (an average speed of 2.3 miles per hour)

*Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer*



## DECEMBER'S FOOTPATH WALK WILL BE ON SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER



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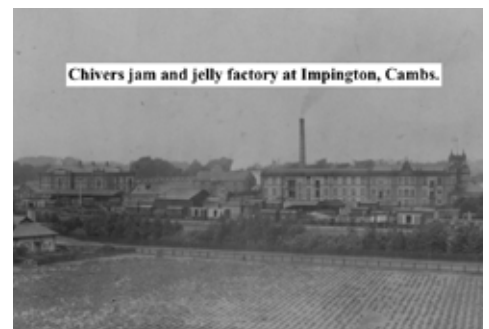
#### The Orchards of Eastern England



A well managed commercial orchard in April.

Our November talk by UEA's Dr Gerry Barnes, gave us a fascinating insight into this subject, based on his co-authored book of the same name. Since the Middle Ages, orchards have been extensively planted and, although these were mainly for practical reasons, they were also appreciated for their aesthetic qualities in country estates such as Suffolk's Hoxne Hall (from 1619) and Somerleyton Hall (1652). Central Suffolk supported hundreds of apple orchards, as well as a smaller number of others that produced crops of cherries, damsons and plums. Small-scale producers grew fruit for local markets and almost all farmers kept at least a few apple trees for home consumption, whilst some orchards were cultivated by institutions for different reasons.

The period 1850-1960 is often referred to as 'The Orchard Century', being the time during which this country's commercial fruit production reached its zenith. Railways and better roads encouraged the big operators to move fruit produce more easily and cheaply into our densely-populated cities which, for East Anglia, meant that London developed into a valuable market. In Attleborough, Gaymers were cider producers who, from 1875 onwards, developed a flourishing business manufacturing their distinctive beverage from Norfolk apples and, with their own dedicated railway sidings, they were able to ship cider, literally, across the globe. Chivers, the jam and jelly manufacturers, also made profitable use of East Anglia's transport links. Although initially simply apple growers, towards the end of the 19th Century, they established a giant factory to process their abundant



Chivers jam and jelly factory at Impington, Cambs.

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crops. The industrialisation of fruit production in the eastern counties created thousands of jobs, e.g. Chivers made early use of glass jam jars but also led to canning their produce and, in the period immediately prior to WW1, they ran the biggest canning operation in Europe (even making their own cans)! Many tradespeople were needed at their Impington site alone - hundreds of graders and packers to handle the fruit deliveries, as well as coopers and basket makers.

Sadly, since the 1960's, not only has there been a collapse in the number of orchards recorded in eastern England, but there has also been a similar decline in the number of apple varieties available. However, this talk did finish on a slightly lighter note when Dr Barnes pointed out that, whilst apple trees age relatively quickly, they also play host to a large number of native insects and other species. Therefore, old decaying apple trees do furnish our environment with significant wildlife benefits.

Finally, Dr Barnes extolled the value of his favourite fruit and main focus of his years of study. Apples, although ubiquitous, should be appreciated more and given more attention by home cooks. He also urged everyone to find and get to know as many different varieties of both apples and pears as possible, and he lamented the restricted ranges available in typical supermarkets. His lively presentation prompted much discussion.

### Christmas-themed historical words (to make you chuckle!)

**Abliguration:** any excessive financial outlay on food and drink; or as in "A Universal Etymological English Dictionary" of 1721, "a prodigal spending in Belly-Cheer".

**Joblijock:** any kind of domestic disturbance, such as small children jumping up and down on the bed at 4am on Christmas Day! This centuries-old Yorkshire dialect term was once reserved for cockerels who crowed insistently at sunrise.

**Quafftide:** gin o'clock, sun over the yardarm. In the 1500s, the single-word announcement that it was time for a restorative drink was "quafftide", in which "quaff" nicely imitates the sound of a long, deep draught.

**Symbel-gal:** an Anglo-Saxon term that translates literally as "feast-lustful", and is the adjective you need for someone who is so intent on imbibing or scoffing that they have no time for anything or anyone else.

**Wabbit:** exhausted, played out, knackered, feeble – all of these physical and mental states are encompassed in the Scots word "wabbit", first recorded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Zwodder:** The final entry in Joseph Wright's 1898 "English Dialect Dictionary" is the perfect expression of slumberous contentment. *Zwodder* is defined as "a drowsy, stupid state of body or mind" – its roots may lie in the dialect word *swadder*, meaning "to grow weary with drinking".

For our **14<sup>th</sup> December** meeting, **7.30pm at the Wesley**, we look forward to welcoming back acclaimed local actor, Bryan Thurlow, for his performance entitled "**Music Hall Memories**" - a light-hearted potted history of British Music Hall with historic songs and monologues. As a founder member of The Berkeley Squares Music Hall Company, Bryan will share his extensive knowledge of this genre and the songs that made them so popular. No need to book tickets in advance (our usual prices on the door, £3 or £5, will apply), so just come along to enjoy this evening with us, followed by our light seasonal refreshments and mulled wine.

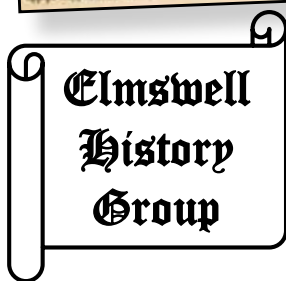


**Wesley**  
ELMSWELL  
EST. 2020

Come & join us for another  
**Winter Warmer  
Pie & Mash**  
Tuesday 23rd January 1pm

2 course meal, soft drink & tea or coffee  
Feel free to bring a bottle too!

Pre booking opens in January & pre payment is required, please head down to the Wesley to secure your space or call  
01359 244134



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



# Merry Christmas from all of us at The Hartwell Blind Company



Merry Christmas to all off our wonderful customers.

2023 has been a whirlwind of a year, we can't quite believe it's Christmas already!

Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year it's greatly appreciated.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



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## AND THE WINNER IS... ELMSWELL

On Tuesday 21st November, 654 of us remembered to take our photo ID and made our way to Wesley or to Blackbourne to Make our Mark.

As 606 of that number agreed to support the use of the Neighbourhood Plan for Elmswell in helping to decide planning applications in our village, the Plan goes forward to be, 'made'. In a very few weeks it will become Planning law and 'a material consideration' when Planning applications come up for discussion.

In other words, what the village has agreed is the best way forward for development in our community becomes a factor with legal weight behind it.

45 votes were cast against the Plan making the majority 92.6% on a turnout of 17.22%.

There were 4 other Mid Suffolk Plans which went to Poll at the same time and the figures were similar across the board.

Elmswell's Plan was long in the making – we were the first to start one in Mid Suffolk. There were extraordinary factors which slowed it down – largely the complex issue of whether a relief road could be incorporated to avoid the railway crossing and, of course, the very rapidly changing landscape as Mid Suffolk were forced by central government to allow housing development faster than the plan-makers could protect their communities.

One immediate benefit is an increase in the percentage of developer money levied against community infrastructure expenditure which comes directly to the village.

Better late than never.



### DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

#### Mid Suffolk District Council Referendum in the Elmswell Neighbourhood Plan Area

I Arthur Charvonia, being the Counting Officer at the above referendum held on Tuesday 21 November 2023, do hereby give notice that the results of the votes cast for the neighbourhood plan area of Elmswell are as follows:

Question		
Do you want Mid Suffolk District Council to use the <b>Neighbourhood Plan for Elmswell</b> to help them decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?		
	Votes Recorded	Percentage
Number cast in favour of a <b>Yes</b>	606	92.6 %
Number cast in favour of a <b>No</b>	45	6.88 %

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more answers than required	0
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	3
Total		3

Electorate: 3798      Ballot Papers Issued: 654      Turnout: 17.22%

Dated Wednesday 22 November 2023

Arthur Charvonia  
Counting Officer

Printed and published by the Counting Officer, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2BX



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## AROUND & ABOUT

### ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

With winter and Christmas just around the corner Suffolk Libraries are doing different things to help out. As usual we will have hot drinks, mince pies and fruit available for people who want to spend a bit of time in the library during December. We are extending it into the new year too as the Warm Welcome project is happening across all the Suffolk Libraries.

We have also launched Be Kind To A Kid This Christmas toy appeal with BBC Radio Suffolk. We are asking people to donate new toys and we will be accepting donations until Friday 8th December. The idea is to collect donations of new toys to pass on to children who'd appreciate an extra present this Christmas to help spread a little festive joy during the cost-of-living crisis in Suffolk.

- Toys must have the correct CE safety marks on
- Toys should be suitable for a child around 0-7 years old
- We're unable to take in big items such as bikes, so something which would fit in a shoebox or shopping bag would be ideal
- We can take unused and unopened toys if they are still in their original packaging
- Some shops may be offering a buy one get one free or similar offer if you'd like to donate the spare toy.

We will have Jenny Steer exhibiting her artwork throughout December. Jenny has always had a love of stories and books, exploring folklore, fantasy, myths and legends. They are a never ending source of curiosity and excitement for her.

Animals have also been an important part of her life. The relationship we have with animals has always been a big inspiration for her work. She is particularly interested in everyday folk, the lives they share with animals, the traditions, customs and tales that have entwined them, some long forgotten. In recent years, wood-burning (Pyrography) has been a total joy for her. She loves the warm woody sepia tones, and indulgent detail she can create with this wonderful method. Happiness is getting lost in pattern, fur, feathers, a face, not just in my own artwork but the tiny details of life!

Along with the Christmas cards mentioned last month, we now have some stocking fillers too. We have torches on a keyring for £3, pens that



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also have an end that you can use instead of your finger on touchscreens for £3 and ethically produced Love Your Library jute bags for £5.

Suffolk County Council are consulting on the future of library services and the consultation is open until 26th January. Libraries are an important community asset and involve a lot more than books. From places to meet others, learn new skills and get involved in activities at all ages, libraries play a special and unique role in peoples lives.

Suffolk County Council is re-procuring the library service and would like to invite you to have your say to make sure our libraries continue to be fit for the future.

<https://suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations-petitions-and-elections/consultations/shaping-the-future-of-library-services-2023>

We are able to offer the range of books, activities, newspapers, computer access, in part to donations to Suffolk Libraries. If you are able to, please consider donating to Suffolk Libraries. You can donate via <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/support-us>

See you in the library soon,

*Miles*

## What's on?


Story Time  
**1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday**

Sunday Crafts  
**1pm – 2pm every Sunday**

Lego Club  
**Every Sunday 11am – 12noon**

## Opening times

Monday: Closed  
Tuesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm  
Wednesday: 2pm - 5pm  
Thursday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm  
Friday: 2pm - 5pm  
Saturday: 10am - 1pm  
Sunday: 10am - 3pm



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"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."

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\*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.



## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

### Greetings from St John's :)

As we enter into the month with the longest nights and as we continue to hear distressing stories of war and death from around the world, it is good to remember these words of Jesus from John 8:12: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Christmas story is about the light of God entering into this dark world to bring salvation. December at St John's kicks off with a powerful reminder of this in our Christingle service. An orange represents the world. Cocktail sticks adorned with sweets and fruit remind us of God's provision. A red ribbon goes round the orange, reminding us of how Jesus shed his blood for this dark world. And a lighted candle is placed on top, reminding us that the light of Jesus shines in the darkness. The darkness will never overcome the light and the promise of God is that a day is coming when the darkness of this world will be gone forever.

But looking back for a moment - November was a month of remembrance. We held our annual Time to Remember service (a time to remember and honour loved ones no longer with us) and our Remembrance Sunday service (a time to remembering those who gave so much for us in times of war and to pray for peace). Both were both well received.

Our Sunday School continued to look at the Old Testament book of Exodus. However, we will be switching to focus on the events of the first Christmas as we head into December. New children are always welcome to join our Sunday School, which includes a time of craft after listening to the Bible story.

On 10 December, we will be welcoming schoolchildren from Year 5 and 6 to Discover Advent, a creative way of retelling the Christmas story in an engaging, reflective way.

Carols by Candlelight is always a lovely occasion and you are warmly invited to come along on Sunday 17 December at 6:30pm. On Christmas Eve, we have

our popular 3:30pm Nativity and, that evening, our Midnight in Bethlehem Carols and Communion service is at 8:30pm. We celebrate Midnight in Bethlehem rather than Midnight in Elmswell, which means we can still get a good night's sleep before the excitement of Christmas Day. And so we come to Christmas Day - please note, our main Christmas Day celebration is at 10:00am, not 10:30am.

Please do join us this Christmas to celebrate Jesus, the light of the world.

#### Upcoming Dates:

Sun 3 Dec 9:00am  
Holy Communion (spoken service)  
Sun 3 Dec 10:30pm  
Christingle Service for all ages  
Sun 3 Dec 6:00pm  
Song Circle concert  
Sun 10 Dec 10:30am  
Sunday Worship with Holy Communion  
Sun 10 Dec 6:30pm  
Carols By Candlelight  
Sun 17 Dec 10:30am  
Sunday Worship with carols  
Sun 17 Dec 6:30pm  
Carols By Candlelight  
Wed 20 Dec 7:00pm  
Carol Singing at Elmswell Tavern  
Sun 24 Dec 10:30am  
Short service with Holy Communion  
Sun 24 Dec 3:30pm  
Family Nativity  
Sun 24 Dec 8:30pm  
"Midnight in Bethlehem" service  
Mon 25 Dec 10:00am  
Christmas Day Celebration  
Sun 31 Dec 10:30am  
Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

#### Every Saturday:

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

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

Rector: Peter Goodridge

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

Tel: 01359 240512

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell](http://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".

All bookings and payments to :- Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell (Tel: 240908)

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported the floodlighting this year, and Happy Christmas to all.

### NOVEMBER 2023 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

11 FOR THOSE LOST AT SEA I cannot bend beside these graves for they sleep in a secret sea And not one gentle whispering wave will tell the place to me. But though unseen through human eyes and humans know it not. In remembrance, by Joan Catchpole.

#### DECEMBER 2023

- 10 in memory of Ray Borrett.
- 16 Ken Catchpole. "In the Lord's keeping for twenty nine years, in our thoughts and heart for ever". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 23 Revd. Noel Clarke - remembered with love on his Birthday.
- 24 in memory of Evelyn and Roy Clark.
- 24 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas time, Rene and George Stiff. "Always in our thoughts". Louise and Brian. xx.
- 25 Ken Catchpole. Dear Husband, Dadda, and Grandad. Also, dear In-Laws and Grandparents, Charles and Ivy Catchpole. "The special Christmases will not return, when we were all together, but with all the love in our hearts will always stay for ever". Love Joan, Stephanie, Ivan, William and Glyn. xxxxx.
- 25 cherished memories of Evelyn Simpson, much loved and missed by all the family.
- 25 in loving memory of Hugh & Dora Handyside. xx.
- 25 in loving memory of Tony & Mary. xx.
- 25 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas time, Rene and George Stiff. "Always in our thoughts". Louise and Brian. xx.
- 26 in loving memory of Hugh & Dora Handyside. xx.
- 26 in loving memory of Tony & Mary. xx.
- 29 anon.
- 30 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 31 in loving memory of Duncan Wardrop on his Birthday. "Loved and missed each day". Love, Alex, Doug & Teddy. xxx.





## ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

As Christmas approaches we are in the period of Advent, a time of looking forward to the coming of a Saviour. In this time of great uncertainty this is a message that everyone needs. When Jesus first came he was born in very humble circumstances and the first people to be told were shepherds, a despised group in 1st century Palestine. During Jesus' life, as now, many people did not recognise him for who he was. Our task as Christians is to ensure that no one remains in ignorance of the fact that Jesus was God come down in human form to rescue all mankind from their sins (not a politically correct term nowadays I know) so that when Jesus returns to earth as King (and who's to say that with all the current turmoil in

the world that it might not be soon?) we are all ready to welcome him having accepted him as our Lord and Saviour. We would be delighted if you were to come and join us for any of our services and activities during December and learn more about this.

The Ladies Friendship Group have their annual Nosh 'n' Natter at 7pm on December 4th at 1pm (NB it is not in the evening this year). Men are invited as well, after a bring and share lunch, entertainment will be provided by The Horringer Bellringers. All are welcome, telephone Margaret on 241541 for more details.

The Food 'n' Friends Christmas Special will take place on Thursday December 14th at Midday. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place for Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings. Open to all senior citizens.

There are at least 3 opportunities to sing some of your favourite carols.

Carols at The Tavern/Wesley will take place on Wednesday December 20th at 7pm with mulled wine, tea and coffee provided by the Wesley Volunteers and mince pies provided by the churches. This is organised by Christians Together in Elmswell and music will be provided by the Norton Salvation Army Band, in the Wesley Chapel if it's raining.

On Christmas Eve December 24th we

have two carol services, Carols in the Daylight at 10.30am for those who don't like coming out in the dark and Carols by Candlelight at 5pm, a chance to get your Christmas celebrations off to a great start in a unique atmosphere.

All are welcome to all these events, see our separate advert with details of all the above.

We are grateful to those who come and lead our worship each week. Our preachers for the next few weeks are:-

### December

- 3rd Rev. Robert Green  
- inc Communion
- 10th Rev. Norman Tharby
- 17th Mark Partridge – All Age Christmas Café Special
- 24th Rev. Reg Craig – Carols in the Daylight 10.30am - Carols by Candlelight 5.00pm
- 31st DIY Old Year/New Year Special

### 2024

#### January 7th

Rev. Reg Craig – inc Communion

Visit our website at  
[www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk](http://www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk)

It is our prayer that you come to know Jesus Christ as your Saviour and friend during the festive season and consequently have a REAL Happy Christmas!!

*Christmas Blessings, Tony*

## Elmswell baptist church

The green 'tin tabernacle' in Ashfield Road, Elmswell, IP30 9HG



On Monday December 4th at 1pm the Ladies Friendship Group gather for their annual Nosh 'n' Natter to which the men are invited. The event starts with bring and share food followed by entertainment by Horringer Handbells. Telephone Margaret on 241541 for more details.



On Thursday December 14th at Midday the Food 'n' Friends Christmas Lunch takes place. This is for the older folk and is Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings. Telephone Jackie on 245918 to book your place.

Sunday December 17th sees our All-Age Christmas Café Special led by Mark Partridge. A fun time for all the family.



On Wednesday December 20th at 7pm Carols at the Tavern/Wesley, organised by Christians Together in Elmswell, with music by the Norton Salvation Army Band, Afterwards the Wesley Volunteers will be serving mulled wine, tea and coffee. Free mince pies will be available too!



On Sunday December 24th at 10.30am we have Carols in the Daylight especially for those who don't like coming out in the dark. Choose your favourite carol. At 5pm it is our Carols by Candlelight which takes place in a unique atmosphere created by over 80 candles. Free coffee, mincepies and shortbreads at end

Do come and join us at one or more of these celebrations and get your Christmas off to a great start. ALL welcome.



## WESLEY UKULELE BAND

We had three gigs last month. Apple Day was blessed by good weather this year but the Wesley Ukes were taking no chances and borrowed member Gail Mead's two gazebos to cover all possibilities. Luckily, there was an Elmswold member on hand who had an A level in 'Doing Difficult Things' and helped us put them up. Once erected, we were well sorted and had an enjoyable session which rather reminded me of the Bowls Club Barbecue as few people actually stood and listened, we being background music creating a pleasant ambience. It was well-attended and we had a very enjoyable time.

You may remember that we played for the Neonatal Unit at WSH a couple of months ago. As a result, My Wish Charity asked if we would play at Newmarket Community Hospital. Six of us toured the wards and played to patients and staff. It was very gratifying when one lady told us that our playing made her mother smile for the first time in a long time. I hope that was a compliment.

We then made a return visit to the United Reform Church in Bury St Edmunds. We were royally catered for having tea before we started and more tea, or coffee, at half-time plus a selection of exceedingly good cakes. They were extremely appreciative and, although far from being sold-out, made in excess of £200 with which they seemed completely delighted. We also received a very kind letter from the organiser of that gig, too. We do try to support organisations that engage us and several of us would have done more at the Beer Festival, were it not for having to drive back home. We are delighted to report that we have been invited back next year.

Our final gig in October was at Moreton Hall for a charity called Music in our Bones, which helps Dementia sufferers and their families, by encouraging them to get involved with music. We were very pleased that our audience clapped and sang along and seemed to have really enjoyed themselves. We were so impressed that we have designated them as our chosen charity for the rest of the year. For more information, please visit [musicinourbones@gmail.com](mailto:musicinourbones@gmail.com).

Our picture shows the Brass and Bass section of the Ukes.

We have four engagements booked for November and these are The 1940s lunch at the Wesley on the 8th, the Time Out Club in Bury on the 20th, Gt Barton Bowls Club on the 24th, and Hitcham W.I. on the 28th. We have several members who are not in the best of health right



now, in fact we were missing a few at the URC, so here's hoping that we are back to full complement soon when we are all restored to full health.

For information, please call Kevin on 07710 149040 or Carol  
Or email: [Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com](mailto:Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com)



### ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY THERMAL IMAGING PROJECT



*Helping You Keep Your Warmth In*

We have booked a thermal imaging camera for free next year from  
**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January to Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

Our aim is to raise awareness about insulation and help you improve the energy efficiency of your home.

- This could mean:
- ❖ a reduction in fuel bills
  - ❖ better health
  - ❖ reducing your carbon emissions

Visit [www.greensuffolk.org](http://www.greensuffolk.org) for further help & information on the benefits

#### What can you learn from a thermal imaging survey?



If your house is relatively new, already has insulated cavity walls and double glazing and feels warm – you might not learn much, except to get an even warmer glow after confirming your house is well insulated!

If your house is older and seems difficult to keep warm - you might learn exactly where the heat is escaping and get some ideas about where to insulate.

A thermal imaging survey might:

- ❖ identify places which might have draughts
- ❖ detect whether cavity wall insulation is patchy or missing
- ❖ detect areas with less loft insulation

**If you would like us to include your house in the survey please contact the Parish Council Office by email – [clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk) or by 'phone on 244134**

The cameras use infra-red radiation which *cannot* pass through glass. This means the camera cannot see through windows, doors or walls. A thermal imaging survey will not invade your privacy as we will only see the outside surface of your house.





## NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

### The Big Hedge at Turner's Field

As your Newsletter goes to press we're busy preparing for the Big Hedge Planting at our new playing field at the Blackbourne. Some of the saplings have been growing all year in our tree nursery next to the library, so we've been digging them up ready to go into their new home. Hundreds of others have come from the Tree Council and Woodland Trust. The field has been cut and the hedge line in front of the new fence has been ploughed to make the digging easier. All the tree guards and canes are standing ready to help protect the new trees from being nibbled by rabbits and deer, and there's a huge pile of wood chippings waiting to be spread as a mulch. We've already planted a few to show everyone what it should like. On the big day we're hoping for lots of people, armed with spades and trowels, to come and help with the planting and do their bit for our new community amenity. All the pictures will be in your next Newsletter in January!

### Willow harvest – come along to help and start a new garden project

At the end of the year it's time to think about harvesting the willow at Lukeswood. Over the last few years lots of people have come along to help cut the willow and have taken away bundles for various projects in their own gardens. The wands have many uses, both as green and brown willow. Green willow can be planted to grow new trees or make living structures such as shelters,



bowers, seats, or a "fedge" – a cross between a fence and a hedge. Just stick it in the ground and, amazingly, it will strike roots and grow. Brown willow can be made into hurdles, fences, tepees or as supports for climbing plants. The smaller ends of the wands – the tips – can also be used in basket work or to make other decorative pieces, including fantastic willow sculptures.

We'll be collecting this year's harvest on Saturday 13th January, 9.30-12.30. Once again, we're offering free willow to everyone who comes along to help. Please bring secateurs, or preferably loppers if you have them, and stout gardening gloves. There is parking on site so you can take your bundles away with you. Dress warmly, as it's bound to be cold then.

## WONDERFUL WILLOW

Willow cutting at Lukeswood



Saturday 13 January  
9.30-12.30

Come and help us with the annual willow harvest

There will be hot drinks on hand to keep everyone toasty. Do come and join us – it's a great way to start the New Year!

*Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas from all at ElmsWild!*

Mary Feeney  
info@elmswild.org.uk



**Worried about Savings?**

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

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# ELMSWELL TAVERN ★ OUR COMMUNITY PUB

## POP UP BAR...

Once again there was an encouraging turnout at Blackbourne on 17th November when one -and-all were invited to mix and mingle . Share holders enjoyed a subsidised first drink courtesy of Greene King... we went through a complimentary firkin of their excellent London Glory.

The Chairman of ECE (the Pub Group), Olly Jackson , raised the tone with an update on progress and a reminder of t he Second Share Issue together with the Shareholders meeting due in January when a new Board will be elected, offering all Shareholders the chance to help personally steer the project to completion.

The quiet bit of the evening was when questions were invited from the floor. Either Olly's explanations left no room for doubt or query ... or the socialising was more important?

Everyone content!  
Nevertheless, Board Members, shareholders and Parish Councillors were well represented and the following explanations were offered in conversations around the room.



## HOW DOES THE SECOND SHARE ISSUE WORK AND HOW DO I BUY SOME?

Full details are available on line with hard copies of all documents available from the office at Blackbourne during normal office hours on weekdays. These include:

- ★ The details of the community group - Elmswell Community Enterprise - as a Community benefit Society registered with the Financial Conduct Authority as a not-for-profit organisation with all assets locked in ensuring that only the community benefits from trading profits.
- ★ The cost of shares - £50.00 each and the maximum purchase limit of 1,000 shares.
- ★ Details of interest payable once the enterprise is turning a profit.
- ★ The democratic one-member-one-vote structure with the right of all to seek election to the Board of Management at the AGM.
- ★ Assurance from HMRC that certificates will be granted ensuring 30% tax relief on the investment.

*Documents are available on [www.elmswelltavern.co.uk](http://www.elmswelltavern.co.uk) and scroll down to the 'Prospectus' and 'Business Case'.*

## WHEN MIGHT WE SEE THE PUB OPEN AGAIN?

Planning permission is the first hurdle. There has already been a positive response to the Pre-Application consultation with Mid Suffolk several months ago ... the principle is OK, but the full submission must contain certain detailed documents - such as an Ecological Appraisal, a Bat Roost Assessment, a Bat Roost Survey, and an Ecological Assessment. All of these were commissioned and a full programme of surveys is now completed with no problems found. The formal Reports will be available soon for submission with the full plans to Mid Suffolk scheduled for w.b 18th December. The Planners will deliver their verdict within 8 - 13 weeks which might take us to mid-end March. Meanwhile , there are funding applications in place which will help define the scale of the building we can afford ... if those mists have cleared by the end of March we go for Building Regs./ construction drawings and specifications and builders to tender for the works. The actual build could take 12 months, give-or-take. A start in summer 2024 is feasible. An opening in Spring 2025 would be a result!

## WE RAN IT FOR 9 MONTHS TO LAST CHRISTMAS WHY NOT CARRY ON?

Over the spring/summer of 2022 trading conditions were glorious with a long hot summer, lots of outside trade and the Family Days with bouncy castles etc. helping to patch over the inevitable losses in normal trading in a pub that couldn't offer food. The Tavern just about broke even. No-one was able to produce a business plan that promised the same for 2024, and this has been borne out by our neighbouring locals where the food trade makes profitable trading possible. The inevitable losses would have to be paid, effectively, out of everyone's Council Tax. The Board remains receptive and open to any informed view, backed up with cost estimates and trading forecasts, suggesting a different way forward.

## WON'T PEOPLE LOSE INTEREST AND NOT USE IT WHEN IT DOES OPEN?

Immediate local history suggests exactly the opposite - think Weeping Willow at Barrow; Thurston Victoria. Both closed for a long time and packed-out from the reopening. Elmswell Tavern will be a whole new experience with enough of its history retained to remain part of the village's heritage going back 100 years. It offers us the same wide-ranging social benefits as does the Wesley which following a similar community effort, has gone rather well! Another people place.

## CHRISTMAS POP UP PUB

At Elmswell Tavern

WEDNESDAY

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# Merry Christmas!



## Reindeer Wordsearch!

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

- |         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Blitzen | Donner   |
| Comet   | Prancer  |
| Cupid   | reindeer |
| Dancer  | Rudolph  |
| Dasher  | Vixen    |



Can you complete the Christmas Challenges?

### BUILD A CHIMNEY FOR SANTA

USE ITEMS FROM THE RECYCLING BIN TO MAKE THE ULTIMATE CHIMNEY.



### CREATE A JINGLE BELL MAZE

USE A CARDBOARD BOX TOP AND CREATE A MAZE FOR A JINGLE BELL!

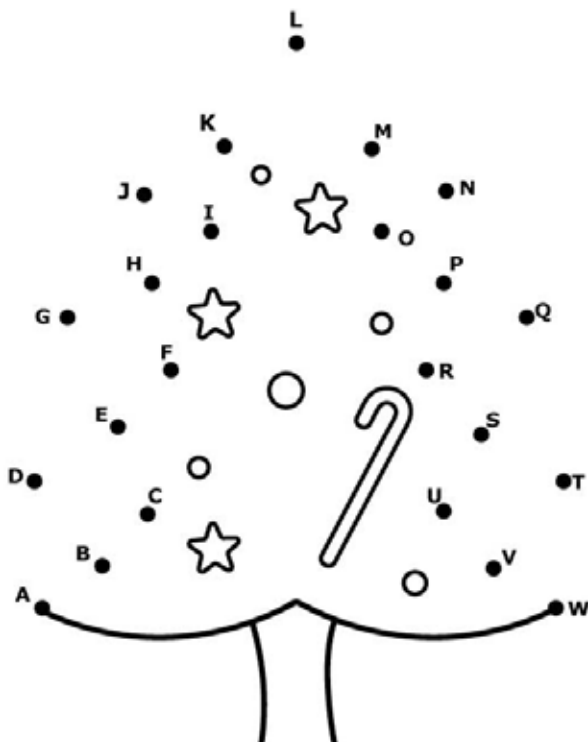


### DESIGN & BUILD A CHRISTMAS TREE

USE ITEMS FROM THE RECYCLING BIN TO MAKE A NEW TREE FOR SANTA.



## Alphabet Dot To Dot!



### Make your own Christmas decorations!

Head out on a walk and collect some sticks! Use string to practise tying these together with knots. Then add 2 eyes and a red nose and hang it for everyone to see!

# ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB



## FIRST TEAM REPORT

Last month's report, you might have noticed, was a repeat of the previous month's. Blame Artificial Intelligence or Genuine Stupidity; it's up to you. The results were as follows:-

Capel Plough 2-2 Elmswell (Capel won 5-4 on pens)

Elmswell 1-7 Kesgrave Kestrels

Gt Blakenham Chequers 0-2 Elmswell

Needham Phoenix 1-2 Elmswell

Back to the Trickmaster General for Movembers round up...

We started November with a home game against Needham Market Phoenix who we had beaten the week before 2-1. We started the game well with Jack Spampinato getting our first and only goal of the half. After half time Jack scored his second and Romaine Scott grabbed a goal with the game finishing 3-2 making it 6 points from an available 6 points against Needham this season. The following week we looked to make it 4 wins on the bounce as we travelled to Bardwell who are near the foot of the table. We started very strongly with both Will Hayden and Romaine Scott scoring a brace each with Will getting his Hat-Trick in the second half and coming away with 3 points and a clean sheet. Player of the match went to George Chandler.

We found ourselves in second place having played a few more games than everyone else. We trekking to Wenhaston, who are undefeated, with the winner of this game set to top the table. We had 4 call offs before the game and took a depleted squad. We battled and worked hard but the better team on the day won. Wenhaston walked away with a comfortable 4-0 win dropping us back down to 5th.

Next up Stonham Aspal away. Our next Home game is against Coplestonians 2/12/23 up the Blackbourne, 2pm ko.

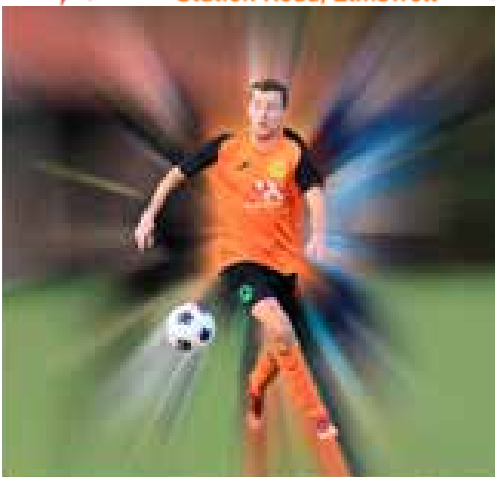


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## ELMSWELL FC HOME GAMES

02/12 2:00 ko Elmswell v Coplestonians

16/12 2:00 ko Elmswell v Ipswich Athletic

AT THE BLACKBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE



## RESERVES REPORT

On the 11th November, after a minutes silence, we played second place Somersham Reserves. They have a plus 29 goal difference, so we knew it was going to be a tough afternoon. Very early on a long throw to the near post was lost in the low autumn sun and Somersham were ahead. Our keeper bounced back superbly from this uncharacteristic error and made a string of excellent saves to keep us in the game. We kept compact and hard to break down and it was only when the visitors found the top corner from outside the box that they stretched their lead to 2-0. In the second half we managed to build on our defensive stability and started to cause them some problems. We gained momentum as the half went on and hit the post before dragging a penalty wide. The grandstand finish wasn't to be, but we gave them a good run for their money. MOTM for a third time in three games was our goalkeeper Jamie Barter.

Mendlesham were supposed to visit us at The Blackbourne but this time round another week of heavy rain proved too much for the pitch. They offered to play at their pitch so off we went, in our old Badwell Ash White Horse black and white kit (as worn in the Junior Cup final a few years ago for anyone who was there). We made a strong start and dominated the opening stages. Sam Dew very calmly finished from about 35 yards after a goalkeeping error. Things were looking good until Ally Clarke was forced off and we lost the centre a little. Mendlesham equalised. Their fullback, not tracked at the rear post, finished off a parried save. They were a bit fortunate to go ahead after a headed clearance bounced off their striker and into the net. We regrouped at halftime but were forced to make another substitution and rejiggle things further. The second half was pretty even. Mendlesham had a full bench (probably why they were so keen to get the game played), while we were forced to bring an injured player back on to replace an even more injured player! It was tight and edgy but we hung in. With about 20 minutes left a lovely Kez Ramsey freekick was flicked in by Damian Fisk to draw us level. Not long after an equally brilliant corner from Aaron Farmer was met by Fisky, for his second and to give us the lead. SCENES! We held on. Everyone put their heart and soul into that performance, and we were rewarded with our first points of the season, that also takes us off bottom.

Long trek to Wenhashton Reserves next week (who we beat on pens in the cup last year when they were div.5).



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## AROUND & ABOUT



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

## THANK YOU

I am delighted to report that the Elmswell village total raised for the Annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2023 was an astonishing £11,187-73.

In appreciating the current economic climate, your generosity has been outstanding.

This amazing amount has been passed to the Poppy Appeal and, will certainly help the charity to carry in providing vital assistance and welfare to our serving and ex serving military personnel and their dependants, whose needs and requirements are as vital today as they were back in 1921 when the British Legion was formed.

There are so many people I would like to thank, whose efforts and assistance greatly contributed to achieving this amazing amount.

- To the volunteers, some old troupers and some new recruits.
- To Ryan at the Co-op store who generously allowed us to have a table top in the foyer and, to all of his staff, who were very helpful and looked after the volunteers so well.
- To Elmswell Primary school, who happily promoted our cause.
- To the numerous businesses and organisations who helped with static boxes.
- To Elmswell Amenities Association and Parish Council, who offered us their support
- To the anonymous gentleman who left a bucket full of coins amounting to £284-60

The assistance of everybody concerned and the generosity of everybody who donated is greatly appreciated and I thank you all so much.

Norman Plumpton ( BIFF )

Elmswell Poppy Appeal  
Organiser ( EJD 024 )

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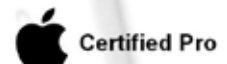
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Mark Edwards and Pauline Collins about to take on Rob Dann and Richard Vince in the Pairs Final



Dick Burch presenting Hostess Nan with flowers in recognition of the generosity of the Fox over the season.

## FOX BOWLS CLUB

Since we started in 2018, we have grown in number in a slow but steady fashion to the point we are at now, when we really need to run another team but don't quite have the number of players to fill it. With holidays, family commitments and, since bowlers are mostly elderly, illness and injury, it requires nine or ten players to run a six-man team and be able to guarantee fielding a full team every week. If you are a player short you simply have to play with what you have and being a man down can be a huge disadvantage. Many experienced players don't know the procedure for such an event although, admittedly, it is rather rare. If you run two teams in the same league, you cannot interchange players

at will. Players who are registered for one team cannot play for the other. Other clubs divide their membership between the two teams but we don't have enough players who want to play in the afternoon. One solution would be to enter a team in a different league, for example, the Stowmarket Tuesday League, where many of us cut our 'league teeth', to run along our Monday team. We could then interchange players at will. The downside of that plan is that it would jeopardise our Tuesday evening Area D team so we are currently examining alternatives. Also, a new team means a new team captain and we are finding these hard to come by. Too many players want to turn up, play and pay and go home.

On a brighter note, we are in the process of applying for a grant from Cllr Sarah Mandell's Locality Budget to buy ourselves an Honours Board and some new seating for the occasional visitors. A good point at which to remind you all that the Bowls Green is a community facility and is open to all residents. Our Agreement with the Parish Council is that we have to allow access to all villagers in return for the very favourable deal that we have with them. We are very happy to do this but few seem willing to take up the option, even though we provide tea!

Peter Edmonds, E.F.B.C. 07860 395720  
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## TRADITIONAL GHOST STORIES

### AT CHRISTMAS

Our most revered festive traditions rarely go back that far: after all, the Christmas tree only arrived with Prince Albert in the 1840s. Yet one tradition that seems genuinely ancient was the telling of ghost stories on the shortest days (and longest nights) of the year. Folklorists believe this started in pagan times, as people huddled around the yule log and sought to entertain one another, in deep darkness. The tradition survived well into Christian times and was only stopped, it is said, by the man conveniently accused of being England's killjoy-in-chief, Oliver Cromwell. Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" (1843) brought the ghost story back into popularity and, in his weekly periodicals, he kept the spooky tales coming in subsequent winters. However, the ghost story was elevated to a new level of sophistication by M.R. James (1862-1936), one of the late 19th and early 20th century's most distinguished medievalists, who spent his boyhood (1865-1909) at the Rectory in Suffolk's Great Livermere and was the provost of King's College, Cambridge (1905-18) as well as the University of Cambridge's Vice-Chancellor (1913-15). Several of his ghost stories are set in Suffolk, including "Oh, Whistle, and I'll Come to you, My Lad" (Felixstowe), "A Warning to the Curious" (Aldeburgh), "Rats" and "A Vignette" (Gt Livermere), which are still in print so do order them from the library to send a chill down your spine on those dark winter evenings.



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Please note as of February  
2023 D A Bevan has been  
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The Parish Council meets at least once each month, excluding August, although extraordinary meetings can be called as required at any time. The November meeting with 7 councillors present, together with the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow, took place at Blackbourne on Monday 20th.

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

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when ratified, are available online at [elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://elmswell.suffolk.cloud) and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged in the Village Archive at Blackbourne and with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes from the 16th October meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

## Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllrs Sarah Mansel & Jen Overett tabled a written report on BMSDC activities which confirmed the following:

- After Storm Babet, the Council has been working hard to help residents in affected homes and businesses. Householders are being urged to report flood damage via Suffolk County Council's reporting tool. Government has announced some financial support and we are waiting to see how this can be distributed. Affected businesses should also contact Mid Suffolk to register for support. Please visit [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk) for full details
- At Mid Suffolk's Council meeting on 26th October, a position statement on Low Carbon Energy was agreed. In absence of Government policy, the Council cannot make planning policy regarding renewable energy such as solar farms or solar PV on roof-tops. We can only provide a statement of intent in terms of how we wish to see developments proceed. This statement is an interim stage prior to the adoption of supplementary planning guidance in the New Year. At the same meeting it was agreed to form a working group to review sustainable integrated transport in the district – particularly for walking and cycling. It is hoped to review this in relation to commencing schemes in villages in the district.
- The Cosy Homes initiative is being launched on 15th November. Eligible households will be able to apply for energy efficiency measures in their own homes, including if privately rented. Full details to be available soon. Particularly vulnerable households can continue to access this via the wider Suffolk scheme, [www.warmhomessuffolk.org](http://www.warmhomessuffolk.org)
- The new Administration at Mid Suffolk is focussing on the backlog of housing repairs that

are needed. This backlog will be dealt with via a separate contractor allowing the in-house team to concentrate on day-to-day repairs.

- Suffolk's Greenest County Awards are now open for nominations in a number of categories. Community groups, small businesses, schools, individual projects etc are all able to be nominated. Details of the various categories can be found at <https://www.greensuffolk.org/creating-the-greenest-county-awards/awards-categories/>
- The Councils are asking residents for feedback on polling arrangements. Residents can submit their views via the website <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/have-your-say-on-babergh-and-mid-suffolk-s-polling-arrangements>. Parish Councils should be contacted directly.
- A reminder that this year's locality awards are still open for applications. Any group or organisation can apply for amounts of £250 or more. Please contact one of us for an application form.
- Community groups in Elmswell have been contacted by MSDC Grants team as there are funds available and applications for certain types of project are welcome.
- We have arranged a series of monthly drop-in sessions alternating between Woolpit Teacups and the Wesley. The next Elmswell session is on Tuesday 16th January between 10am and mid-day.

## Suffolk County Council

Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report which included the following:

- **Supporting Suffolk Farmers** The council meeting on Thursday 19 October saw councillors vote to approve a motion supporting local farmers and food producers by ensuring that local meat and dairy, as well as plant-based produce, is served at council events. The council's facilities and catering arm, Vertas, has 68% of

its spend with Suffolk suppliers and 86% with regional suppliers. In order to tackle the county's environmental priorities and boost the local economy, the council also pledged to encourage Suffolk residents to buy local produce and shop locally wherever possible. Although this was clearly a "political" motion designed to highlight differences between the parties, I decided to vote in favour of it.

## ➤ Walking and Bridleway Access

At Cabinet on Tuesday 10 October, members of the Suffolk Local Access Forum joined the meeting to provide their annual report, which included the work they are doing to improve and maintain footways and access around the county, particularly with Network Rail and National Highways to make sure that new developments take foot traffic and walkers into account. They are keen for the council to promote the East Anglian sections of the newly named King Charles III England Coast Path. The forum expressed concern about the significant large-scale energy infrastructure projects planned for the county and could impact on Suffolk residents' enjoyment of the green access network and impact on the county's natural environment.

## ➤ Suffolk Pharmacies

On 11 October, councillors attended a Health Scrutiny session which was looking at the service provided by pharmacies in Suffolk and the challenges they face with funding, staff recruitment, medicine shortages and pharmacies closing. Representatives from the NHS, Suffolk GPs and the Suffolk Pharmaceutical Committee joined the meeting and recommendations were made to write to minister about funding, and work with local schools and the University of Suffolk to promote pharmacy as a career path. It was noted that in order to provide extra services (such as blood pressure checks,

cholesterol tests and asthma advice) which take pressure off GP surgeries, more space and consulting rooms would be required than Suffolk pharmacies currently had available.

- **Budget Consultation** Suffolk County Council is keen to hear from Suffolk residents, businesses and local communities as it decides how it will spend money next year and has launched an online consultation to give Suffolk residents a say in budget setting for the financial year 2024-25. There will also be a number of focus groups to explain the council's current financial situation, along with the chance for Suffolk residents and businesses to have a say on Council Tax proposals. There are three key questions, the first is on which services people have recently used, the second asks for thoughts on seeking a greater contribution to Council Tax to help fund public services, and the third on which service area you would like to see more money spent. The online survey can be found at the link below – please give us your views! [http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Budget24\\_25/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Budget24_25/)
- **Storm Babet Flooding** The council would like to extend thanks to residents around the county who helped other residents whose homes and travel were affected by the rains and flooding that struck Suffolk on Friday 20 October. The way the emergency services, volunteers, farmers and local communities worked together to help children get home from school, move people to safety and protect buildings from flooding was truly inspirational. If you have been affected by the Storm Babet and the recent flooding, please use link below for SCC support and advice: <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/about/flood-recovery-information-for-suffolk>
- **A1088 bridge re-construction at Stowlangtoft** A liaison group has been formed between affected parishes, councillors, hauliers and highways staff, the first meeting took place on 31st October where plans and a timeline for the reconstruction work were discussed. This will involve a full closure of the A1088 for 4 months while the bridge is demolished and rebuilt on new foundations. Work is proposed to start late May 2024 but timing may be dependent on when the A14 works are completed.

## Clerk's Report

The Parish Clerk's Report to the Meeting included the following:

1. I attended the Presentation held at Stowmarket's impressive new Police Station on 17th October and hosted by the Suffolk PCC Tim Passmore & Chief Constable Rachel Kearton regarding the change to the Suffolk Local Policing Model which will take place in December 2023. The Community Policing Team, the element of the new 3-tier structure of more immediate interest to Elmswell, is to be boosted from 13 officers to 80. This will be effected by rationalisation and redistribution. I pressed Mr Passmore on the need to re-engage trust with local communities at parish level and was assured that this would be implicit in the move to more visibility, accessibility and engagement.
2. I attended the MSDC Presentation at Debenham on 19th October to hear in detail the new Administration's Corporate Plan, laying out its vision and priorities for the next 8 years. There seemed to be a genuine atmosphere of a new beginning shared by officers and members alike and the 3 broad brush aspirational headings of delivering services to a higher standard, pursuing environmental sustainability and encouraging social justice sounded less hollow than might normally be expected at such gatherings. Full texts and related documents are available on the MSDC website.
3. I have met with Bethany Taylor, our MSDC Community Teams Liaison Officer, on 25th October and subsequently, regarding various grant possibilities and seeking advice regarding the continuing nuisance of the burger van which has, apparently, 'sold on the site' at Station Road and is now operating from a larger unit. With regard to the van, I have now spoken with Environmental Health and with Anglian Water regarding compliance across various disciplines and am awaiting response. I have submitted a formal complaint to SCC Highways having talked the matter through with our Liaison contact there and will pursue the implementation of parking control via a TRO if appropriate. The new unit is, unlike its predecessor, taxed and MOT'd and I am advised that Suffolk Police would only be involved in matters of specific obstruction.
4. Regarding the grant enquiries, as above, I met with BMSDC officers together with Olly Jackson, who chairs ECE, to discuss the best way to access s106 funding held by Mid Suffolk for community use in supporting sport and leisure.

- The process requires consultation and I am in close contact with the Localities Team towards beginning a proper process.
5. Together with Cllr Pallett, I met with our SCC Highways Liaison officer on 31st October to confirm progress on the agreed road safety initiatives and to deal with specific issues, being:
    - Burger van
    - Accepting the multi-disciplinary nature of this long-standing problem and previous attempts to involve Highways as the body responsible for the land on which the unit is sited, it was agreed that I should start again with a report through the SCC Highways Reporting Tool .
    - Flooding caused by blocked drains
    - Some of the long-established flood problems, particularly at Shop Corner and at The Fox result from blocked gullies. Despite the recent visit of the gully-clearing team attending throughout the village, these gullies remain filled with water and are clearly blocked. We visited them to confirm and action was promised.
    - Hedge at Hawk End Lane / School Road junction
    - This is clearly overgrown and affecting visibility. Discussion with the householder founders on the fact that SCC works are required before proper boundaries are confirmed. After visiting the site, SCC have undertaken to carry out their share of the work.
  6. I convened a review meeting of those involved in the Taxi-Bus pilot scheme which has now run for 5 months and have copied to Councillors my notes on that meeting held on 15th November. All concerned were aware of the implications of the Government's Bus Service Improvement Plan funding and I attended an on-line briefing on this initiative organised by Suffolk Passenger Transport's Suffolk On Board team the previous day. It is likely that financial support may well mean that the scheme can continue on a revenue-neutral basis and I will keep Members informed. Meanwhile, I intend to make a further approach for funding to look into the feasibility of EPC's original aspiration for an electric vehicle on a taxi-bus on-demand basis based on an UBER-style App.
  7. I have pursued the progress of the yellow-line parking restrictions at Elmswell School and on Cooks Road to which EPC has had considerable input. Now that the new SCC Highways contractor is engaged and taking up the responsibility for residual works such as this, we are promised





a swift result. The TRO which makes the initiative legally enforceable is only temporary. It is reviewed after 6 months and, if that review confirms that the order is having the desired effect with no overwhelming objection, it is confirmed some 18 months after that.

- 8. It is difficult to precisely cost the provision of allotments and there is, clearly, a different social emphasis on the reasoning than maintained in the nineteenth century when the initiative was founded to support the labouring poor. The administration of each annual renewal together with intermediate termination and new Tenancies is estimated to cost £150.00 pa. Water last year cost £304.75. Capital improvements by way of access roadway works and watering system improvements amounted to £3,950.00, clearly to be amortised over, say, 5 years but with car parking improvements pending. My thanks to Cllr Hancock for overseeing the works programme and for discussing an appropriate level of uplift to the fees which, as proposed, amounts to some £2.00 per year. Allotment income last year was £793.00 and discussion is, effectively, around the appropriate level of subsidy to allotment tenants.

### Planning results

- The Meeting noted the following results of Planning applications made to MidSuffolk, the Planning Authority: DC/23/03849 Change of use of building to form 1 dwelling Royston Farm, Kiln Lane GRANTED EPC objected
- DC/23/04666 Non material amendment DC/20/04375... White House Barns, Ashfield Road GRANTED EPC made no comment
- DC/23/04742 Discharge of Conditions for DC/20/04375... White House Barns, Ashfield Road APPROVED EPC made no comment

### Planning Applications

The Meeting discussed applications forwarded for comment from Mid Suffolk which were supported, being: DC/23/05291 - tree works at Lewis House, Bennett Avenue DC/23/05110 - tree works at 6, Grange Meadows where a condition requiring a replacement was suggested; DC/23/05258 – extensions at Jamita, Oak Lane where a condition limiting the use of the proposed annexe was requested.

### Extra parking for Wesley

The land in Rose Lane purchased for the village earlier in the year for £165,000.00 has since been granted Planning permission for works to create a car park accessed from the existing Wesley site. Having reviewed 3 detailed quotations for the job of clearing the site and laying a permeable surface, Councillors agreed to enter into a contract with Finch Services of Great Ashfield in the fixed price sum of £11,200.00 net of VAT.

### Allotment fees

It was agreed that the annual tenancy fees at the village's Church Hill allotments should rise by 7%, rounded, to take account of the historically very low rents charged

in comparison with other sites, the increase in costs such as water and maintenance and improvements that have been made by way of better water supply provision and re-making the access road.

### Funding village projects

Members agreed unanimously that Mid Suffolk should be encouraged to support Elmswell projects from funds which have accrued from developer contributions relating, largely, to housebuilding in Elmswell. The Clerk explained that Mid Suffolk would themselves approach relevant clubs and organisations in the village, including the parish council, before directing money in areas which would make the biggest difference to life in the village.

### Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 18th December beginning at 7.30pm at Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council meetings and the agendas will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published online at [elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://elmswell.suffolk.cloud) and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and hard copies can be collected from the Council Office at Blackbourne

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 Monday – Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm and other times by arrangement

clerk@elmwell.suffolk.gov.uk  
Tel. 244134 [www.elmwell.suffolk.cloud](http://www.elmwell.suffolk.cloud)



### 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.

Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
18th	15th	19th	18th 15th

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

# 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	Eddie Douglas	edward.douglas2@gmail.com	
Baby & Toddler Group		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Bingo at Blackbourne	Brian Hawes		07761 125093
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	07860 395720
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			
Community Speed Watch	Marie Spampinato	mariespampinato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Andy Mellen	Andy.Mellen@suffolk.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Ben Whatling (Captain)	benwhatling@mail.com	07760 174811
Cubs	Mark Pernot	mark.pernot@gmail.com	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansell@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Jen Overett	Jen.Overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange Afternoon WI	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	242884
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Chris Edmonds	edddd101@gmail.com	
Fox Bowls Team bowls at Blackbourne	Rob Dann	rccsdann@btinternet.com	07917 013846
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Viv	elmswellguides@outlook.com	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Voices (Choir)	Anna Wilton Mills	annawm63@gmail.com	
Library	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Jen & Lizzie	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
Royal British Legion	Norman Plumpton (Biff)	nplumpton@aol.com	07707 524722
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Paula Hollings	ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 562485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Sewing Bee	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	c/o Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Wesley – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
WI - evening	Tricia McNeeney	triciamcneeney@gmail.com	241197
Youth Football	Wayne	wsast@hotmail.co.uk	

**Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH - right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. Staffed Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm and other times by arrangement. clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134**

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

# What's On in Elmswell ?



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

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

## December 2023

- 4 1pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Nosh 'n' Natter with entertainment by the Horringer Berringers - men welcome as well
- 6 Elmswell Afternoon WI at the Wesley 2.00pm Special Christmas Celebrations
- 7 Over 55's Club Cash Bingo
- 12 Elmswell WI Christmas Party
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Bryan Thurlow Music Hall Memories - an entertaining evening of historic songs and monologues
- 16 Over 55's Xmas Party with catering by Home Farm and entertainment by Bob Whiting

## January 2024

- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Members' Evening - A selection of members' own researches
- 23 Come & join us for another Winter warmer - Pie & Mash Wesley Centre at 1pm

## February 2024

- 8 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley chapel. Speaker Rick Lewis: Historic Carpentry of 14+15th centuries

## March 2024

- 14 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Stephen Poulter: Suffolk's Lost Heritage

## April 2024

- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP 24th Anniversary meeting, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Jacquie Norman: Tudor Costumes, Part 2

## May 2024

- 9 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speakers Jill & Richard Mann: Edith Cavell, E.Anglia's WW1 Heroine

## June 2024

- 13 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP AGM at 7pm, in Wesley Chapel - immediately followed at 7.30pm by Speaker Andrew Peachey: Pre-historic, Roman & Saxon Archaeology on Anglia One's Cable Route

## July 2024

- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP Annual Outing - to be confirmed Details and Tickets from 01359-242601

## STOP PRESS

Regular sessions at Blackbourne & Wesley include:

**KARATE** with Lewis - Friday 5.00 - 7.00 [info@greatheadma.com](mailto:info@greatheadma.com)

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

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

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

**BOWLS** - barryhayward1902@gmail.com tel. 240951

**GUIDES** - [elmswellguides@outlook.com](mailto:elmswellguides@outlook.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

**CIRCLE DANCING** - Thursdays 1.45 - 3.15 [jenlerner@gmail.com](mailto:jenlerner@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

**ART CLUB** at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 - 12.00 Eddie Douglas [edward.douglas2@gmail.com](mailto:edward.douglas2@gmail.com)

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

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

**CARPET BOWLS** - Wednesday 7pm at Wesley - [jf.boxall@btinternet.com](mailto:jf.boxall@btinternet.com)

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

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

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

**ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK** first Tuesday monthly, October-June. Diana Hollins 01449 736930 [theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk](http://theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk)

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

## Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: November 21, December 22nd, January 23rd

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

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