



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

JANUARY 2023

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud



Inside . . . Elmswell says Farewell to 2022



*... and looks to
2023 and beyond.*



**THE ELMSWELL
TAVERN SHARE SALES
HAVE CLEARED THE
FIRST, CRUCIAL,
£100,000 HURDLE.**

Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
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EDITORIAL

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

There are some lovely little villages near Elmswell. They may not have a shop anymore, or a school, or a resident vicar, but their social network is strong and they interact in a Proper Village way, just like on the tele., although, notably, without needing a murder every week to keep them chatting.



Elmswell was never really chocolate-box lovely and is now far from little. In the process of becoming big, social links have, inevitably, become stretched and strained. We are almost split into neighbourhoods. The estates which have grown up have a demographic established when the houses were first sold which changes slowly as those individuals age and move on up or down the housing ladder. Hence a community identity founded on the history of post-war development, from 'White City' on Wetherden Road, through the award-winning Pightle Close to Eastern Way / Bennett Avenue and Little Green to the big leap north of the railway at Blackbourne Road opening the door to the Bacon Factory estate. An identity which, therefore, does not come easily or naturally.

Little wonder, then, that we struggle for cohesion. It is not surprising that many of our clubs and societies toil to find leaders or a treasurers or someone to chair and organise. When limitless entertainment sits in our 'phones and when our vast wall-mounted screens can access dozens of channels offering hundreds of entertaining distractions on an endless 24 hour loop it is not surprising that we no longer feel the urge to trot down to the village hall for a whist drive or to hear the local beat combo play hits of yesteryear with bar and raffle. For good or for ill those days are gone, and with them a certain community spirit which went some way to defining who we were.

We make no apology at this time of new beginnings and resolutions in briefly making mention of a heritage which may be slipping away. It seems appropriate to do so when we publish on pages 12 & 13 the invitation to celebrate some 70 years of Dick Burch who has not only seen that heritage develop but who has played a key role in shaping his home village. From the age of 15 when, as part of the then Elmswell Youth Club he helped dig the drains and lay the foundations of the Memorial Hall on Cooks Road. From fighting for a village playing field whilst playing for the Elmswell Football, Cricket and latterly Bowls clubs through the ranks from beginner to team captain. All the while ensuring that these institutions, the backbone of village life through the 50's, 60's and 70's, were properly administered and run by putting in countless hours of administration and backroom slog... running the line, cleaning the changing rooms, organising the dinners and dances

— and cutting and rolling and seeding and spiking the pitches, often for days on end. That might be enough heritage for one good old boy. But Dick decided, as do many, that the Great and the Good who were running things at a higher level, were lacking. Unlike many, however, he decided to do something about it. He became a parish councillor in 1991 and has served uninterrupted since, even weathering the stormy period at the end of the 2010's when vicious party politics crept in to make us, 'The Village From Hell,' and Dick became, briefly, the Vice-chairman to help keep an administration together.

Dick is, without the need to take a survey, the best-known character in Elmswell. His fire and enthusiasm remain. His energy is tempered by the common-sense recognition of 8 decades under his belt. His laugh can inspire all within hearing range to have another pint and his mischief can still inspire a heated argument in which Dick will be right, even when wrong and yet, somehow, nobody minds.

There will not, it is reasonably argued, be another Dick Burch. No child born today will work in agriculture for the whole of a working life through enormous technological change offering such loyalty for such little financial reward. No-one will have a finger on the pulse of their community to that extent — they will be too busy dealing with the endless torrent from an on-line community which is at best uncaring and at worse malign. Dick's defiant assertion that the only on-line experience he will tolerate is a 'linen line' allows him, fairly to represent times past and to maintain that times present offer little

promise of a fulfilling time yet to come.

Luckily, and with Dick's help over the years, Elmswell is ready for change. As the developers and landowners have basked in the lop-sided support of their friends the lawmakers and policy writers we have painstakingly added to the community asset base so that our new neighbours need not be cajoled into supporting an ageing village hall. They have, in Blackbourne and Wesley, a suite of facilities well able to adapt to social trends as they happen. They have a unique opportunity to encourage another top-notch community hub at the Elmswell Tavern.

We are pleased to present another chance to help change happen by publishing the launch on pages 9 & 10 of the next tranche of fundraising for the third village-owned community space in Elmswell.

Dickie has done his bit. We are, now, all invited to take a share in shaping the future.



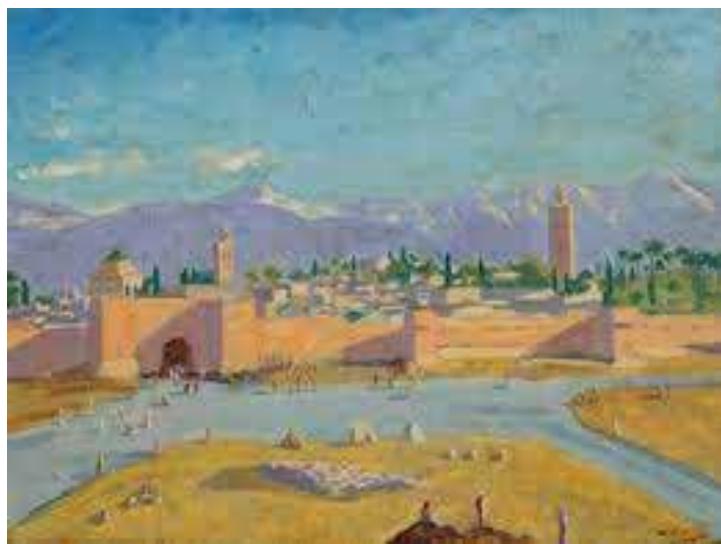
CLUBS & SOCIETIES



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Sir Winston Churchill was born 30th November 1874 and died 24th January 1965; this month will mark 58 years since his death. British statesman, soldier, and writer who served as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom twice, from 1940 to 1945 during the Second World War, and again from 1951 to 1955, Churchill was also an accomplished amateur artist painting over 500 pictures of subjects such as his goldfish pond at Chartwell and the landscapes and buildings of Marrakesh.

Churchill claimed to have painted only one picture while serving as British Prime Minister during the Second World War - *Tower of the Koutoubia Mosque* - a view of Marrakesh and the Atlas Mountains. This was painted from the balcony of the Villa Taylor while on an excursion with the U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Casablanca Conference in January 1943. He later gave the painting to Roosevelt as a memento of their time together. It was sold by Roosevelt's son Elliott in 1950 and was bought privately by Angelina Jolie in 2011 and subsequently sold at Christie's in 2021 for £7 million. Not bad for an accomplished amateur!



"Churchill Mosque"

Churchill was famous for his inspiring speeches; however, my favourite quote of his took place in 1946 during an exchange with Bessie Braddock (Labour Party politician who served as MP for the Liverpool Exchange constituency from 1945 to 1970) which went as follows;

Bessie Braddock: "Winston, you are drunk, and what's more you are disgustingly drunk."

Churchill: "Bessie, my dear, you are ugly, and what's more, you are disgustingly ugly.....but tomorrow I shall be sober and you will still be disgustingly ugly."

Our paintings this month have British and American military associations; Elmswell Art Club member Kelvin Fellingham produced both of these. The first picture is entitled "*Here we go again*", this is in Pencil and Pastel and it depicts a Mk. III Spitfire preparing for take-off.



Kelvin's second picture is a watercolour painting of the "*The American Mustang P51*"; the Mustang had the famous Merlin Engine fitted (the same as the Spitfire) to give it more speed.



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



Eddie Douglas

**BEST WISHES FOR 2023 - WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL ELMSWELL NEWSLETTER
READERS A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.**



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CLUBS & SOCIETIES



ELMSWELL EXCHANGE AFTERNOON WI

Despite lots of apologies due to illness, we still had a good crowd for our Christmas meeting on 7th December. The Haughley Choir entertained us once again with a few seasonal songs and carols. The committee had been busy baking and we sat down to sausage rolls, mince pies and lots of different cakes helped along with our usual copious amounts of tea or coffee. The choir then joined us to sing some carols, four or five of the usual favourites. The prizes were awarded to the winners of our monthly competitions. Top of the class was Lesley, who sadly couldn't be there



to receive her prize due to illness. The "special" raffle was drawn and the hamper was won by Barbara Yeates.

We then went briefly through the business matters and members were asked to read their W.I. Life magazine and get familiar with the four Resolutions selected for next year. We have to choose one and each individual member has a free vote. As we don't meet in January, we would need to discuss this at our next meeting in February for submission by February 11th at the latest.

It was just left for our President, Mary, to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy, Peaceful New Year.

Our next meeting is on Wed. February 1st at 2 pm. when we will welcome Jonathan Houseago as our guest speaker. We are going to learn all about Hedgehogs and how to save them. I have one who negotiates the back doorstep, walks through the utility room and into the lobby, then promptly eats all the cats biscuits. Very cheeky !! Strangely enough the cat doesn't challenge this; I wonder why ?

If you have any queries or are interested in joining our group please contact Mary on 245022 or Maureen on 241033.

Maureen Davis



OVER 55's CLUB

THank you to everybody for the lovely cards and gifts I received for Christmas. I do not send cards, instead I make a donation to the Brain Tumour Charity which is very close to my families hearts.

I am sure that everybody who attended our recent Christmas Party had a most enjoyable time with an excellent meal supplied by Home Farm Catering from Walsham le Willows.

The entertainment was provided by Brian Mann who presented a varied programme of music and songs to suit all those present. Brian is pictured right.

Also I am sure you all enjoyed the trip to

Thursford on Wednesday December 21 for a marvellous day out and put you all ready for Christmas.

I must thank all the committee for supporting me through another busy year.

The club is now taking a short break to recharge its batteries and will resume again on Thursday February 16th at 7.00pm when we will have entertainment to start the year off.

Many thanks for supporting the club and best wishes for 2023.

Dianne (241002)



ELMSWELL WI

It was our Christmas party, and everyone was greeted by the welcoming smell of mulled wine, which was very popular! Tables were decorated with candles, (made and generously donated by Sharon from the Coffee Shop), as well as sweets and satsumas.

After we had sung Jerusalem, Brenda welcomed Trish, one of our members, who had kindly offered to show us how to make some Christmas decorations.

She wired and covered leaves, flowers and baubles, which she had obtained from various sources. The first decoration consisted of a cracker with some oasis on top. When it had been embellished, it looked very effective. Trish then proceeded to make a wreath by wrapping a wire frame in red ribbon, attaching some oasis on one side and adding the wired leaves etc. In a short time,

she produced some lovely Christmas creations. Everyone was very impressed! Trish gave the two decorations away as raffle prizes.

Afterwards we had some more mulled wine and ate lovely sausage rolls made by Terry as well as tangerines etc. Janet Baker provided some delicious brownies. Unfortunately, she couldn't be with us. There was also a quiz provided by Sylvia, and Sarah won the hamper in the raffle.



We look forward to some more good times in 2023.

Rosie Collins 01359 24162





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CLUBS & SOCIETIES



ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

Elmswell Garden Club will recommence on Tuesday February 21st. The speaker for the first meeting of the year is Tim Fuller. The title of his talk is 'Expectantly Hardy'. He will talk about the effects of global warming on our plants and will suggest the types of plants we can now be confident about growing that at one time were regarded as 'tricky'. Conversely he will also suggest plants less well suited to our changing weather patterns. It should be a really interesting and useful talk.

Last year we welcomed many new members and we very much hope this trend will continue. The club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm at the Wesley on School Road. We invite speakers who have a wide variety of specialisms. In the summer trips are arranged to gardens and other places of interest. Being a gardener is not a requirement, enjoyment of plants is all that's needed.

If you require further information about Elmswell Garden Club (EGC), please contact Catherine on 01359 242172 or Nick on 01359 242601.

The club email is elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com and is a good way to ask any questions you might have.



ELMSWELL BINGO

Elmswell Bingo has gone from strength to strength during 2022, with lots of new members joining in the fun to play bingo, most months now we are getting between 90 to 100 plus people turning up to play, the bingo is run to raise money for local charities and good causes, and this year we have raised and donated £5000 to the following.

- £400 to Bury St Edmunds Women's Aid
- £400 to Elmswell Brownies
- £500 to Our Harry Our Hero
- £500 to Stowmarket Monday Club
- £500 to Elmswell Junior Football Club
- £500 to Elmswell Over 55's Club
- £150 to Combat stress via Steven Abbott
- £500 to Elmswell / Ixworth Lady's Choir
- £500 to Bethaney
- £500 to Clic Sargent
- £500 to Give Hope Shelter
- £50 to Poppy Appeal



The bingo is held the last Friday of every month at the Blackbourne, a warm welcome awaits to any new players wishing to come along and play, doors open at 6.30 and eyes down at 7.30, put Friday the 27th January in your diary.

Best wishes and a happy new year from the bingo team

Brian, Mark and Eddie

THANK YOU FROM THE EDMUND OCTET AND FRIENDS

The concert featuring the Edmund Octet and Friends at the Wesley Centre on Saturday December 10, raised £700.00 for the Addenbrookes Charitable Trust. Added to this has been £120.00 donated by the Wesley Ukes so a cheque for £820 will have reached the ACT by now.

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the concert and the Wesley Ukes.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

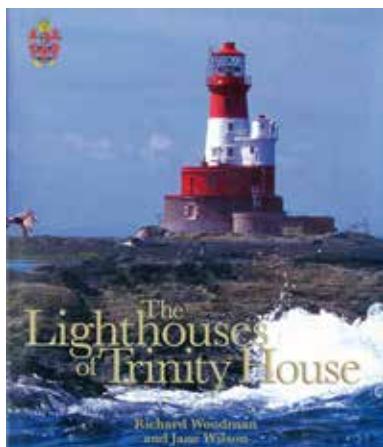
ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP



A bumper audience attended our December meeting featuring a musical presentation entitled "*In the Fields in Frost and Snow*", which does not refer to our recent cold spell but to the wonderful evening of music and poetry which completed our meetings for 2022. It turned out to be an excellent way to celebrate the season as it featured not only the highly accomplished musical trio, Hexachordia, but also a most welcome buffet supper. Hexachordia are musicians of some standing throughout East Anglia, their particular specialism being Early Music, and this performance was a compilation of music and poetry drawn mainly from Tudor times, or a little later. Virtually all of its content was English in origin although a few of the hymns and carols were sung beautifully in Latin. It was a very seasonal concert with references not only to Christmas but also to New Year and wintry weather. The many instruments played were from the 16th and 17th Centuries, so that our concert's music had a very authentic feel about it. Jane played the crumhorn, bagpipes, shaker, and a wonderful collection of four recorders; Tony applied his skills to the lute, renaissance guitar and tabor, plus some woodwind instruments; whilst Sarah added the enchanting sounds of the viol and the vielle to the mix. Twenty-four pieces were played in total, with sung accompaniments to many of them, beginning with the uplifting hymn *Veni Veni Emmanuel*, before moving on, via several other works, to the lovely lilting Coventry Carol. However, Hexachordia did not simply give us plenty of music - from time to time they interspersed their work with readings from various contemporary authors, with Robert Herrick featuring strongly. Their concert concluded with a jolly wassailing song, the origins of which are lost to history, and the evening then continued with plentiful food as well as freshly-made tea or coffee and hot mulled wine for those who needed something extra to keep out the cold. All of this went down very well on that decidedly chilly night, but we kept warm in our beautifully-renovated Victorian chapel which provided excellent acoustics for this music.

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A viol or viol de gamba.
(Early 17th Century.)



Looking to the New Year, on Thursday, 12th January 2023 we will be welcoming Simon Millyard for his talk on "Trinity House Lighthouses", **7.30pm at the Wesley**, when we will learn about this organisation which has been providing lighthouses around England, Wales and the Channel Islands for over 400 years. Its first lighthouse was built at Lowestoft in 1609 and, from its Harwich HQ, Trinity House now owns and maintains 66 lighthouses around our coasts, which are renowned around the world for their innovative design, high-calibre engineering and reliability. Simon has lived in Elmswell for the last 30 years but started life as a Marine Engineer travelling the world as a ship's Engineering Officer before settling down to get married and moving ashore. For the last 15 years, he has been working for Trinity House with a 500-year heritage which is still very active today. Simon has had a varied career as an engineer in shipping, brewing, printing, maritime search & rescue and finally in Marine Aids to Navigation which includes the nation's lighthouses. His talk will cover the history of Trinity House from 1514 to the present day, so do join us then for what should be a fascinating talk from this well-qualified and knowledgeable speaker.

New Year's Resolution? - "Spring Cleaning – Dust If You Must"

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter,
Bake a cake or plant a seed, ponder the difference between want and need?
Dust if you must, but there's not much time with rivers to swim and mountains to climb,
Music to hear and books to read, friends to cherish and a life to lead.
Dust if you must, but the world's out there, the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flurry of snow, a shower of rain, this day will not come back again.
Dust if you must, but bear this in mind, old age will come and it's not kind,
And when you go, as go you must, you yourself will make more dust!
(And that's what "history" is all about - everything turning to dust eventually!)



Pixabay

As chairman of Elmswell History Group, I would like to thank all those who have worked hard throughout 2022 to make our group the success it has been, particularly bearing in mind the challenges coming out of the pandemic. In saying this, I am not merely referring to our expert speakers, but also to our committee members and many others who have contributed to our various events, such as December's concert. It just remains for me to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year, with the hope for new beginnings and peace for all.

Roger Collins - December 2022

Elmswell
History
Group

For further information about our History Group, please visit our website –
www.elmswell-history.org.uk
or contact our Secretary, on 01359-242601

AROUND & ABOUT



ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

I hope you had an enjoyable Yule, Christmas and New Year.

Catalina Carvajal's exhibition is up. It is full of bright paintings of flowers, nature and some mythical creatures. The exhibition is up until the end of January for you to pop in and enjoy.

The community café is back this month on Wednesday 18th January. If you are new to the village or want to meet some new people go along to the Wesley from 10.30am.

This month's display is going to be award winning books with a selection of books

that have won awards in 2022. The books chosen for this year include Skin of the sea by Natasha Bowen, winner of the Diverse Book Awards' Young Adult category, The book of form and emptiness by Ruth Ozeki, winner of the Women's Prize for Fiction, Dead Ground by M. W. Craven, winner of the Ian Flemming Steel Dagger Award from The Crime Writer's Association.

We have a home library service volunteer ready to start so if you or anyone you know could benefit from a volunteer dropping off books then let us know by calling us on 01359 240 974 during our opening hours. The home library service is a service that libraries offer for those who, due to temporary or long term ill health, cannot get to their local library.

We are able to offer the range of books, activities, computer access, printer facilities and warm space 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 at Elmswell Library?

Story Time

1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday

The Keep in Touch Community Café

10.30am on Wednesday 18th January at the Wesley Café (every 3rd Wednesday)

Knit and Natter

2pm – 3pm Tuesday 10th January (every 2nd Tuesday of the month)

Adult Reading Practice

Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please book in advance.

Sunday Crafts

1pm – 2pm every Sunday

Lego Club

Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

Opening times

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm

Wednesday: 2pm – 5pm

Thursday: 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 7pm

Friday: 2pm – 5pm

Saturday: 10am – 1pm

Sunday: 10am – 3pm



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Tuesday 14th February 1.30pm - 3.30pm

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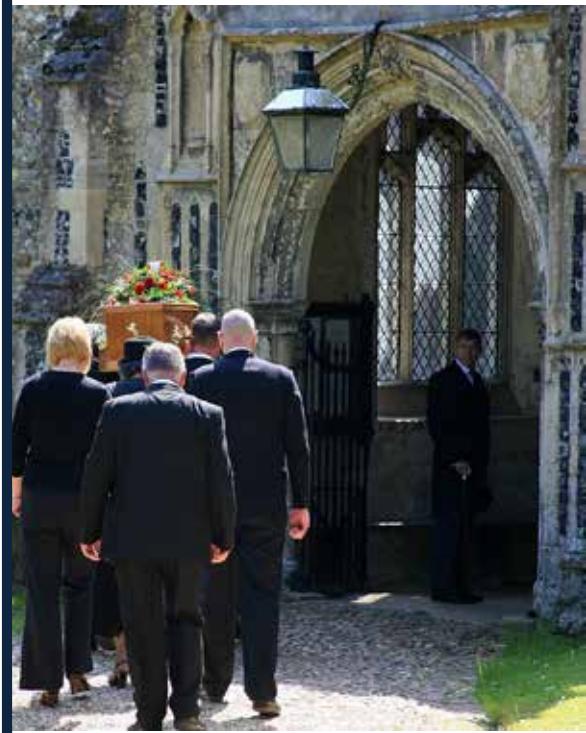
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NOT JUST A PUB . . .

On October 15th this year the volunteers who had come forward to set up 'Elmswell Community Enterprise Limited' launched a bid to attract investment into the scheme to refurbish and expand the village's pub to join Blackbourne and Wesley as very successful community hubs.

The first stage of the fund-raising came to an end on 2nd January with over £160,000 banked.

The Share Issue promised that, once the £100,000 milestone was reached, a second stage could be triggered and the time limit for buying shares extended and this is now in place ...individuals and business now have until 15th May to join the scheme and make the scheme happen.

The gains for the village extend beyond reaching this important target. The Tavern has become home to village groups such as the Folk Club and the Ukulele Band. It has provided a safe, warm meeting space for an ever-widening group of locals and visitors including the Elmswell Food Bank. It has hosted a wealth of community activity such as the monthly bingo, quizzes, karaoke and music, Family Fun days with lots for the kids and Christmas carols with the Salvation Army band - but always aware of the need for a comfortable and welcoming space for people simply getting together.

With the first investors now on board, planning can begin towards achieving the aim of adding to the existing rich choices on offer at Blackbourne and Wesley in providing Elmswell with an even wider range of community facilities open to all.

Key to the concept is good pub food. The response from the consultations with community groups and others puts this top of the list. The shares and other funding must address the kitchen provision and look to providing an attractive space for eating. Without the scope to offer food the business would struggle.

Equally important is the need to remain capable of looking after the community groups and activities which have recently taken the Tavern as their home.

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING THE MOVEMENT TO ADD TO ELMSWELL'S PREVIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS...



WESLEY - purchased by the village just 3 years ago and refurbished, including its amazing Coffee Shop, by the village as a key community meeting place – a runaway success.



.....BY BUYING A SHARE IN

3

THE ELMSWELL TAVERN – bought by the village from Greene King in 2020 including a building plot for Village Affordable Housing

2



BLACKBOURNE – built, expanded and refined by the community over the past 20 years to become central to Elmswell life as home to many clubs and societies and as a successful venue generating income for the village.

FULL SHARE ISSUE DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE
– SEARCH 'ELMSWELL TAVERN'
and follow the link to the Offer Document
and the full Business Plan.
OR RING 01359 244134

...FOR OUR COMMUNITY . . . see an Application Form overpage

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to become a member of Elmswell Community Enterprise Limited ('ECE') by buying shares and thus investing in a Community Benefit Society, please complete the form below and return it to the following address:

Elmswell Community Enterprise Limited, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, Elmswell, IP30 9UH

Name(s): PLEASE PRINT

Address:
.....
.....

Email address:

Phone number(s):

For corporate bodies, provide details of a nominee:*

Company registered address:*

Company registration number:*

In the event of my death I wish my shares, or the value thereof, to be transferred to:

Number of shares I/we wish to purchase

Value of shares you wish to purchase (shares cost £50 each): £

Payment should be made either:

- *by cheque drawn on a UK bank regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority payable to Elmswell Community Enterprise Limited. Please enclose your cheque with this application; or*
- *by direct transfer from a UK bank regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority to ECE's bank account, as follows:*

Account Name: ELMSWELL COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE LIMITED

Sort Code: 08-92-99

Account Number: 67224900

Reference: *Your Surname and initials plus postcode – e.g. Smith AB IP30 9EE*

Please tick the box to confirm payment has been made directly to our account

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AROUND & ABOUT



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Dickie likes to party ...





Dick on footpath maintenance duty with the good Doctor Dodds



Dick a labourer in the play that marked the unveiling of the Village Sign



Dick in the thick of the action at the Autumn Fayre



Dick plants the first tree at Lukeswood



Dick on the allotments, presenting the Best Plot award



Dick always the sportsman – one of many Bowls Club presentations



Dick, at home...on his tractor



Dick – the Spirit of Elmswell that helped us to be named Village of the Year in 2008



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Happy New Year from St John's Church

"I know why people like Christmas Carols so much. It's because they are all about a little baby and a cute baby is no threat to anyone." These were the words somebody said after one particularly large Carol Service.

This was not how King Herod and Jerusalem saw things 2000 years ago. On 6 January (known as Epiphany), Christians celebrate the wise men arriving in Israel, looking for Jesus, the new-born King of the Jews. Their arrival caused an uproar, culminating in Herod's order to kill all infants in Bethlehem under the age of two.

It is an interesting contrast. People from far away seek Jesus to honour and worship him. Those who should have welcomed him most want Jesus to go away, to disappear. He is seen as a threat. For many people, Jesus still is, because he claimed to not only be King of the Jews, but of us all.

The late Queen Elizabeth could not have been more different to Herod. She publically affirmed that her authority was granted to her by God and that she served him and her subjects. We have been immensely blessed over the centuries in Britain by the Christian faith, but sadly things are changing. Many are now antagonistic towards it (just as Herod was). Curiously it is once again those who are far away who are again seeking to worship Jesus, as I have discovered on my travels to the Far East.

As we head into a new year, why not take time to look at Jesus afresh? Read a gospel account of his life in the Bible or online. Or maybe stream the series "The

Chosen" or the film "Risen." Like those 2000 years ago, we have a choice. Push Jesus away as did Herod, or seek him as did the wise men.

At St John's Church, we will be starting a new series of talks looking at the last days of Jesus on earth – you are invited to come and worship and discover what Jesus can do for you. We meet every Sunday at 10:30am. Tea and coffee are available afterwards and a warm welcome is guaranteed.

Upcoming Dates:

Sun 1 Jan 10:30am	Short service with Holy Communion
Sun 8 Jan 10:30am	Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
Sun 15 Jan 10:30am	Sunday Worship
Sun 22 Jan 10:30am	Sunday Worship with Holy Communion
Sun 29 Jan 10:30am	Sunday Worship
Sun 5 Feb 9:00am	Holy Communion
Sun 5 Feb 10:30am	Family Service

Every Saturday:

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

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

Rector: Peter Goodridge

Email: elmswellrector@gmail.com

Tel: 01359 240512

Web site: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell

YouTube: accessed via our website home page

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a lovely way to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation.

And it all helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

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

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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

Your support is very much appreciated. Thank You and a Happy New Year to all.

DECEMBER 2022 SPONSORSHIPS NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

- 25 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad at Christmas time, Rene and George Stiff. Love, Louise and Brian. xx.
25 remembering a dear Mum and Dad, Rene and George Stiff. From Monica, Philip & family. x.

JANUARY 2023 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 remembering a dear Nana and Grandad. From Louise and Brian. xx.
2 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
6 remembering Evelyn Simpson with love. "Forever in our thoughts". "God Bless".
13 in loving memory of my mother Eileen Fraser on her Birthday.
15 in loving memory of Geoffrey Dalton on his Birthday.
19 in loving memory of Natasha Smith.
22 thinking of Rob Dalby on your Birthday. "Always in our hearts".
23 in loving memory of Ricky Woolnough's Birthday.

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MASS TIMES:

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Sundays – 8.30am & 10.15am
Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket
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Holy Days – 10am & 7.30pm
Our Lady's Strickland Road Stowmarket

Weekday services in the Parish are
advertised at the

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



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

On the 5th of December Our Ladies Friendship Group held their annual pre-Christmas Nosh and Natter "bring and share supper" at the church and were entertained by the Wesley Ukes, nearly fifty people squeezed into our little chapel for a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and a couple of days later our food and friends Christmas lunch was enjoyed by nearly thirty of our regular guests and helpers.

I hope that all our readers had a happy Christmas and found time during the festive season to enjoy some form of worship for without Jesus there would be no Christmas.

Our Ladies Friendship Group meet at 2.00PM on January 9th for their first meeting of 2023 to hear a talk by Elspeth Rushbrook about a local survivor of the Titanic, contact Margaret on 01359241541 for more information, this meeting is open to all ladies both young and old not

just attendees at our services.

Thursday 12th January at midday sees the first Food and Friends Lunch of 2023, contact Jackie on 01359245918 to book a place if you have never been before; these lunches are aimed at our senior citizens.

Our 10.30AM Sunday Services in January will be led by,

1st January

Rev Norman Tharby (Inc. Communion)

8th January

Eddie Kerridge

15th January

Mike Forrester

22nd January

Rev Robert Green

29th January

Rev Norman Tharby

5th February

Rev Norman Tharby (inc. Communion)

I would like to congratulate all the folk involved in the "Give Hope Event" held at the Blackbourne in December it was a remarkable achievement well done Elf and your helpers!!!!!!

It only remains for me to wish all the readers of "In Touch" a happy and prosperous new year I hope and pray that we might see some of our readers at our services and meetings in this new year, contact Tony on 01359 241541 or go to our Website www.elmswellbaptistchurch.org.uk for any more information you might need

Dave Hollings



WESLEY UKULELE BAND

On Monday, 5th December we were invited to play at the Elmswell Baptists and, unusually, were fed, and fed very well, before we had played a note. It really was the most royal of feasts and we were more ready to sleep than to play! We soon slipped into the groove and, with the audience assisting with tamborines, hooters and klaxons, we all had a wonderful time. We were a little low on numbers for this one and missing some key players but we managed to put in a good performance and everybody left in good spirits.

Two Saturdays later, on the 17th, we did our regular gig at the Tavern. We followed our normal format only this time dress was optional and most of the band opted

for seasonal dress so it was Christmas jumpers to the fore! For the second time in a row, a young family joined in with us and, I have to tell you, this village is brimming with young musical talent. It would also appear that girls are far more willing to get involved in our performances than boys are. Parents might want to ponder that one and compare it with their experiences.

We are taking a break for the holiday season and will start up our Thursday practice at the Wesley in 2 or 3 weeks and we have a gig booked at St John's Church on the 21st and another in Cambridge a few days later.



One photo this month, but it is a good 'un. I call this two Christmas Carols

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

The first Tuesday Afternoon Treat at Wesley was a sell-out



The next one is on Valentine's Day – 14th February – see page 7

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Crafty Christmas

What a busy December we had! We started the month in festive mood with our Crafty Christmas workshop at Wesley Coffee Shop. What a lovely venue for this event – it was really buzzing! People of all ages came to buy and make decorations and everyone went home with something pretty to hang on the tree or give to someone special. It was great to make use of lots of natural materials from our woodland – dozens of birch slices and birch logs were transformed into snowmen, reindeer, santas and candles, and some really beautiful wreaths were crafted from willow. Elmswell homes must have looked lovely on Christmas day! A big thank you to all the wonderful Wesley baristas, who kept everyone supplied with delicious coffee and refreshments. We all had a great time and we'll definitely be back to do it all again next year.



Jack Frost arrived to nip our toes

November was so warm we began to wonder if winter would ever show up. Nature really



needs a proper cold spell at this time of year to function as it should. Trees require a period of dormancy and many seeds need frost in order to germinate successfully in spring. Yellow Rattle, which is important in establishing wildflower meadows, is just one example of seeds that need the cold to break down their outer shells. Hibernating animals can also find unseasonal warmth difficult to deal with as they may wake at times when there is no food about. Polar air did sweep in eventually and treated us to some spectacular hoar frosts at Lukeswood. A coating of ice crystals made all the trees sparkle and any remaining leaves or berries were frosted solid.



Two new trees for the late Queen

The extended frost made the soil too hard and cold for our favourite activity – tree planting – so we were relieved when the temperature swung back up again (doesn't it yo-yo about?) allowing us to get spades in the ground. We had a beautiful sunny morning to plant out two trees just before Christmas. Members of the Trefoil Guild had bought a Wild Service tree as



their contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy project, part of the celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee, and Trefoil Gilder Ann joined us to plant this in the woodland at Lukeswood. We also planted a special apple tree in the orchard to commemorate the Queen's long life and reign. This is a Sandringham Apple, a very old local variety which was developed at the Royal Estate in Norfolk from a Winter Pearmain Seedling. It is a very good cooker, but can also be used as an eater when fully ripe. We're looking forward to seeing the blossom in spring, said to be an outstandingly attractive dark pink. A lovely new addition to our orchard and a fitting tribute to the late Queen.



Willow cutting, 14th January, 9.30-12.30

Don't forget our willow cutting morning at Lukeswood! Everyone is welcome to come and join us – and to take away some bundles of willow for craft or garden projects. Please bring gloves and secateurs or loppers if you have them. A great way to start the New Year!

Wishing everyone a very happy and treeful New Year from all at ElmsWild

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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CITIZENS ADVICE

December was an expensive month, with presents to buy and heating bills going up, and now I'm really struggling financially. I've seen offers for 'Buy Now Pay Later' when I'm doing online shopping. It seems like a good way to spread the cost of some of the things I need but how can I make sure I don't get into debt?

With everything getting more expensive, it's sensible to be thinking about how you can manage. There are lots of things you can do to try and stay in control of your money.

Before you start spending, work out exactly what money you have coming in and going out each month. Be realistic about what you need for essentials like food and travel. Take a look at the budgeting tool on the Citizens Advice website citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/budgeting. This can help you set a budget you can stick to.

You'll also be able to find tips on how to reduce your regular living costs, which might be helpful if you're struggling to keep within your budget. While it can be tempting to split payments with schemes like Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL), you'll need a plan to pay the money back. If you're using something like that repeatedly, you

might be managing for now, but it could also be a sign that it's unaffordable in the long run. Keep a record of how much you owe in total.

Always make sure you understand what you're signing up for, how you'll make the repayments and what will happen if you can't pay on time. It's important to check the returns process for both the retailer and credit provider. Paying through BNPL may also affect the cost of postage returns if you've ordered online. The riskiest thing about it is that you're not guaranteed to be protected if something goes wrong. For example, you can't go to the Financial Ombudsman Service if you have a complaint.

If you find yourself turning to credit cards, your overdraft, or store cards for your spending, keep track of what you owe. You should prioritise paying your rent or mortgage, plus energy bills and Council

Tax first, because not paying these has the most serious consequences. On the Citizens Advice website, you can find information on what bills to prioritise and how to manage debts. There's also information on the support available for paying these and other bills.

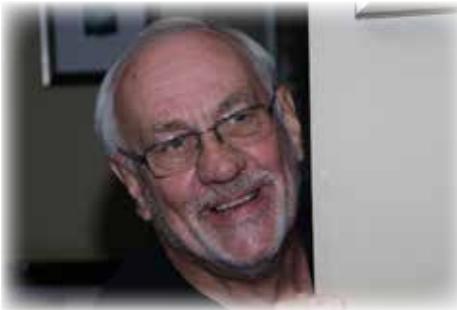
If, like many during this crisis, you find you can't afford to reduce your debts after paying your priority bills and essentials, seek advice as soon as possible. If you need specific support or don't feel able to manage your situation alone, contact Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk so they can help you find a way forward.

Everyone's circumstances are different, particularly when it comes to managing personal finances, so it's important to get support that's correct for you.



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

ELMSWELL SPORT



Phil Stabler



Barry Hayward



Derek Cross



ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

Here we are on the brink of another year and three months away from another season. By rights, the Monday afternoon team and the Tuesday evening team will be playing in their respective second divisions unless more teams drop out as is, sadly, quite likely in which case one or both might get reprieved. Having reached fourth place, the Thursday evening team is quite safe but they are in division 2 of the Thursday League and will be vying for to do better

because that is how you have to approach every season. It will apply more keenly to the teams that have tasted Division 1 and they will be looking for another crack at it. With the village expanding as it is, we are always aware of the possibility of new bowlers moving in and, if you fall into this category, or fancy trying it out, you can contact the number below for more information. If you make a New Year's resolution to get fitter or be more active,

bowls would be a good way to start. If you don't plan such a commitment, perhaps you should?

We are a bit short on news, being Christmas, so I will share more photos with you to use the space. These are members who attended our presentation night. If you see any of them, approach with caution.

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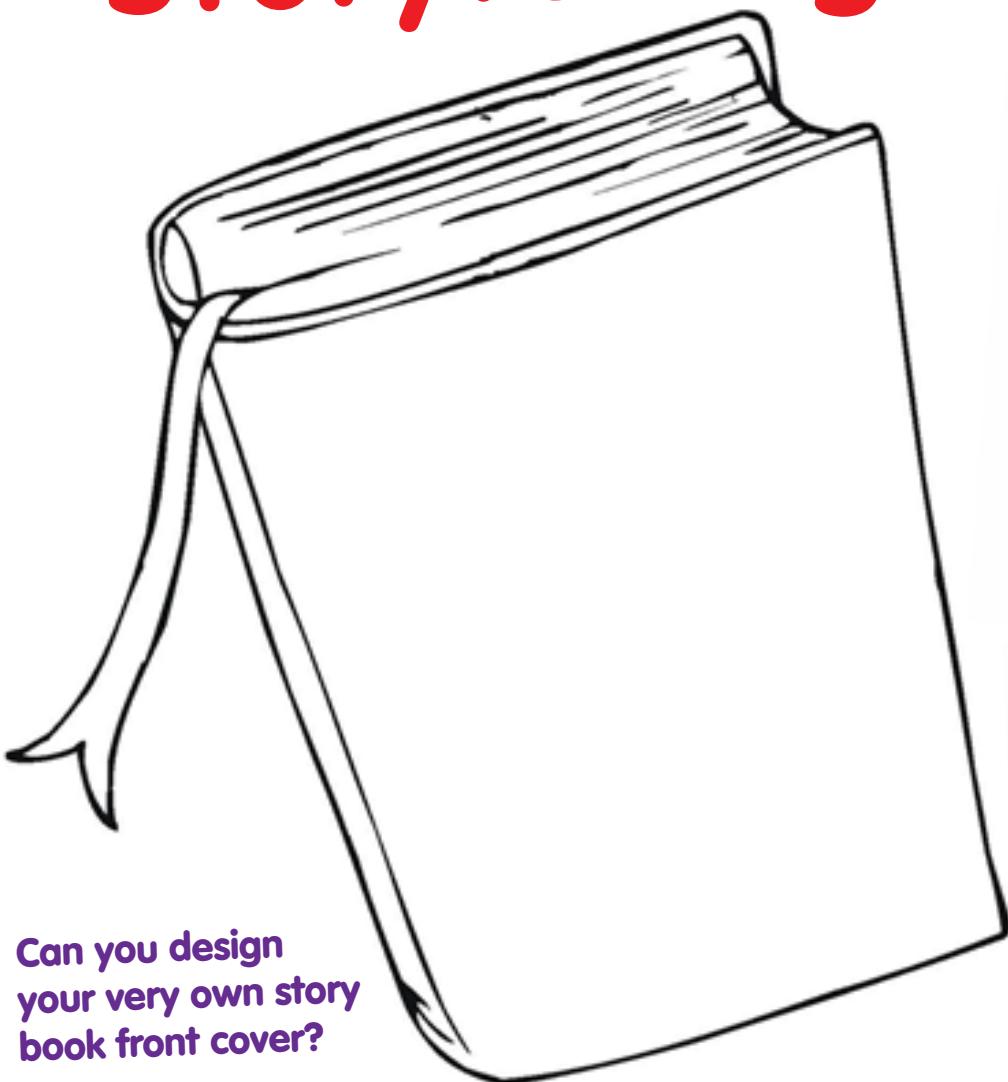
Way to go...

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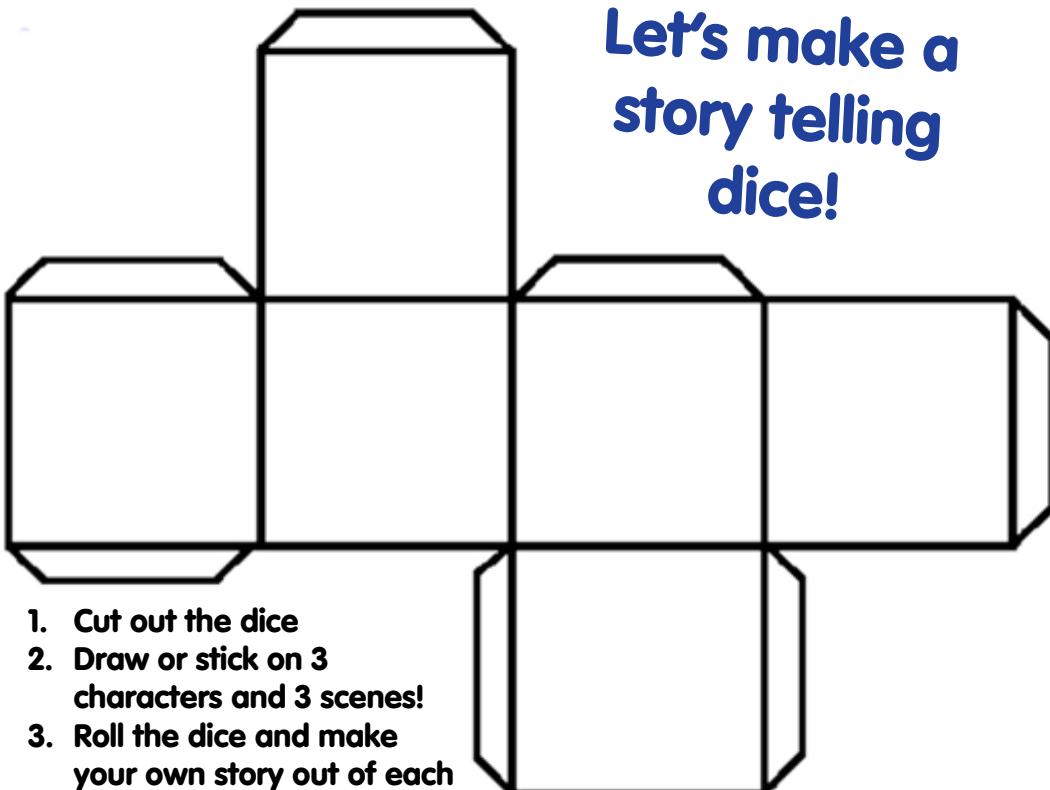




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Secretary's Report

Not much football has been played since we last met. The first team had a good win against high flying Kirton Athletic back on the 3rd of December. We won 3-0 with goals from Will Hayden, Ash Farmer and Matty. MOTM was Dylan Palfreyman who was monstrous in centre midfield.

The Reserves only game was another 3-0 win, in the League Cup, against Div.5 Benhall St Mary. We had a couple of non-cup-tied First Teamers in, which definitely helped. Palfreyman scored a cracker but Ed Hodgson scored two and got MOTM for his outstanding performance down the right.

We hope you all had a nice relaxing break. If you need to walk off any excess turkey you can swing by The Blackbourne and watch Elmswell play on the dates below!

UPCOMING FIXTURES at THE BLACKBOURNE

- | | | |
|-------|---|-------|
| 07/01 | Elmswell Reserves v Somersham Res Div 6 | |
| 14/01 | TBC | |
| 21/01 | Elmswell v Ipswich Athletic | Div 2 |
| 28/01 | Elmswell Reserves v Bramford Res | Div 6 |

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ELMSWELL FOOTPATH WALK



FOOTPATH WALK - SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2022

On a very crisp and bright December morning; eight hardy, well insulated parishioners met up at the village sign with the temperature reading -3 degrees centigrade. Undaunted by the inclemency of temperature the group bravely set off along Station Road turning into School Road and then into Rose Lane travelling southwards to meet up with Church Road.

Crossing over into Spong Lane we continued south on FP16 across open fields then into a sunlight dappled wooded stretch which wound its way past the wastewater treatment works and on to Kiln Lane.

Turning left we strolled along Kiln Lane up to Warren Lane, crossed over on to FP22 and onwards up to Warren Mill House on the left.

Branching half right after the house we continued on FP25A past Long Plantation on the left and Wetherden Warren on the right before turning left on to FP51 with woodland on the left and paddocks on the right.

Going down the slope we emerged into Wethereden on the Elmswell Road adjacent to the Baptist Chapel.

Crossing the road and then Kate's Lane we walked north on to FP32 up to Captains Lane and veered westward on to FP33 and then left on to RB46.

On a point of information a Restricted Byway (RB) is defined as a right of way on foot, on horseback, or leading a horse, cycling and for any vehicles other than

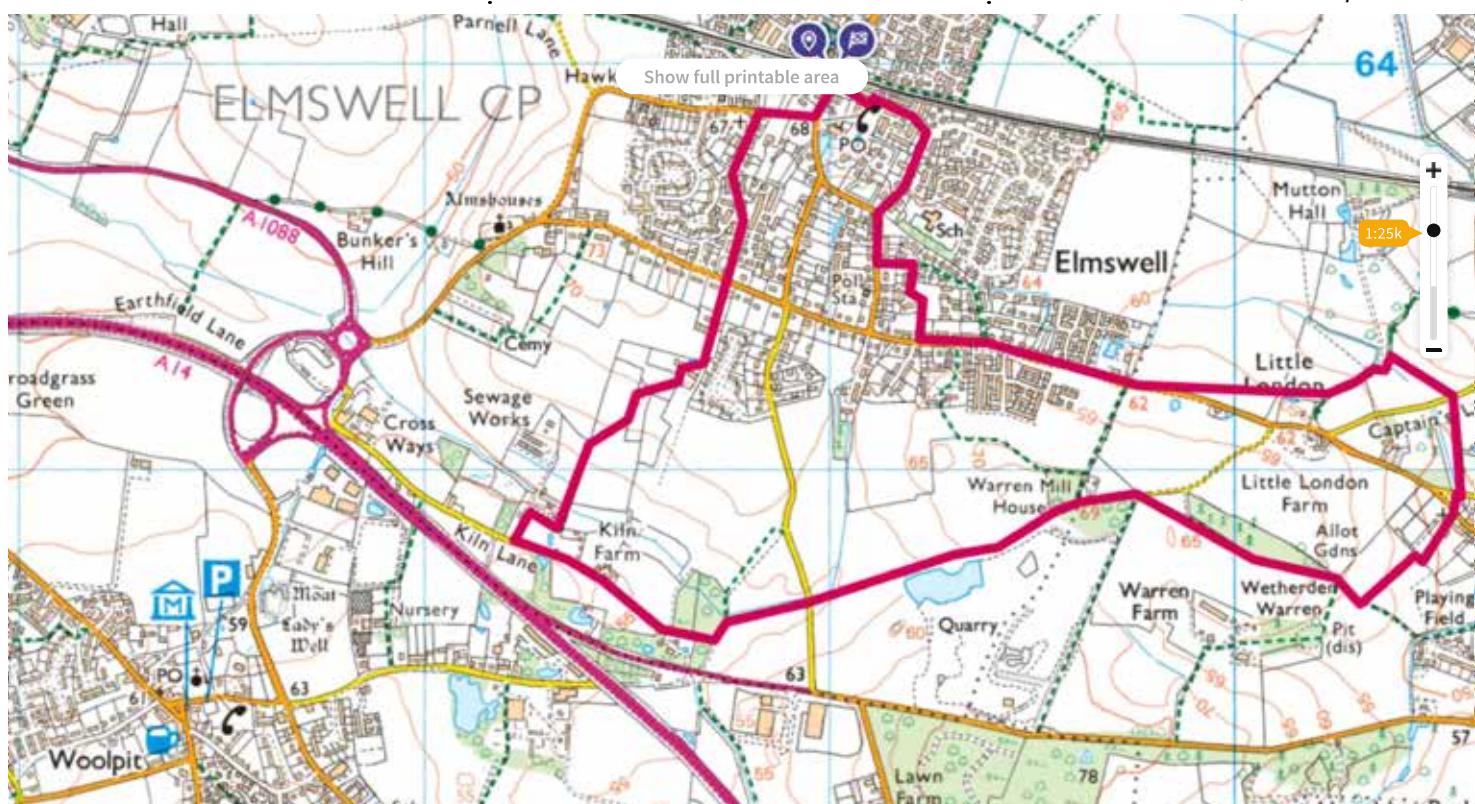
mechanically propelled vehicles. In some cases there may also be a right to drive animals. So now you know.

Making use of the group's key into the Mutton Hall grounds we traversed the meadows exiting on to the Wetherden Road to the side of Elkfield.

We meandered back through the village back to Crown Mill via the green space adjacent to Clay Field, Thedwastre Close, Cooks Road, New Road and finally Station Road

A very chilly but thoroughly invigorating walk of approximately 4.3 miles in 1 hour 48 minutes (an average speed of 2.4 miles per hour).

Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer





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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 December meeting with all 11 councillors present, together with 3 members of the public and the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow, took place at Blackbourne on Monday 19th.

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

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

Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllrs Sarah Mansel & Helen Geake tabled a written report on BMSDC activities which confirmed that:

- At the last Council meeting there was discussion on a motion regarding water quality and the prevalence of wastewater discharges into our rivers and waterways. The motion recommended that this issue will be discussed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and that planning officers will request more information than the mandatory comments from the water authority.
- Mid Suffolk's end of term report has been published on the website <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/the-council/performance/what-have-we-done-for-you-report>
- Following the tragic death of a toddler in Rochdale, Mid Suffolk and Babergh are undergoing a full diagnostic review of Building Services. This picked up the need to increase our input into resolving issues around mould and damp. These recommendations have been acted upon. More officers are now able to deliver damp and mould treatment and a Damp Specialist Surveyor is now employed.
- Both Ward Members still have funds available and would welcome applications from any local club or organisation in need of funding towards the cost of a local project.

Suffolk County Council

Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report confirming that Suffolk County Council met on the

1st December and, amongst other business, considered three motions: The administration had a motion thanking Suffolk households who are hosting Ukrainian refugees, and calling for more hosts to come forward – this received cross-party support. The opposition group submitted a motion calling for an improved Bus Service Improvement Plan, including prioritising Demand-Responsive & Community Transport for Suffolk rural communities. The motion was debated but voted down. The Labour group put forward a motion on providing further support to carers, proposed by former Ipswich MP Sandy Martin – this issue was featured widely on TV and in the press, but again was not voted through.

Council leader Matthew Hicks also made a statement regarding the proposed devolution "county deal" for Suffolk, under which further resources would be allocated to Suffolk's local authorities. The price of this is that there will have to be a directly-elected council leader (but not a mayor) who would lead and choose the cabinet for the County Council. Apparently this would not result in an extra tier of bureaucracy but at present it is not clear how this would be achieved. Earlier, the Cabinet had met to discuss the second quarter forecasts for the Council's budget (June to Sept). Currently there is a worry as they have reported a £12.2m budget gap – largely due to inflation and energy prices. The Council will use Reserves to cover this cost. However, this cannot be a long-term solution. There is concern that the Council will not be fully funded by this Government to deliver the same services to residents. The Cabinet also met to agree a new road enforcement scheme, and to apply for new Government powers

to penalise drivers who commit offences affecting buses. The trial for the scheme has selected four sites in Ipswich for a cost of over £200,000. There is a view expressed that this money could have been spent more appropriately on bus priority measures, new bus lanes, and maintaining rural services.

In the recent by-election in Beccles the Green Party candidate Ash Lever retained the seat with an increased majority. This leaves the overall political situation on the County Council unchanged: Conservative 55; opposition Green Party, Liberal & Independent group 15, and Labour 5. Last year, SCC's SEND services were criticised in a review conducted by Lincolnshire Council. A recent update confirmed that 22 of the 32 recommendations have been actioned, and the remaining 10 will be completed by the end of 2022. The delivery of 1,317 new specialist school places by 2026 has been agreed and 826 of these places are now open.

The number of Education Health Care Plans has increased to 6,847 in September 2,022, from 5849 in September 2020.

The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders' Group met to update leaders on the progress of the county's action plan to achieve net zero by 2030. A new Suffolk Climate Emergency Dashboard has been set up to display the latest data and performance measures, as well as other action such as a successful communications campaign, additional match funding, homeowner support services, and a Net-Zero knowledge hub to educate businesses. Next steps include investments in EV charging infrastructure and developing a community energy sector. The Leaders Group agreed to release £923,458 of

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED BY ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

previously allocated funding to further implement actions. The next review will be in Spring 2023.

New hosts coming forward to help accommodate guests from Ukraine that are already in Suffolk can sign up via the Suffolk County Council website, by completing the online form or emailing:

refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk.

Accommodation must be available to guests for a minimum of 6 months. Hosts will be eligible to receive the £350 thank you payment for up to 6 months or more, depending on the date the guests arrived in the UK. Anyone interested, is encouraged to visit: [Ukraine: Could you help a family in need? / Suffolk County Council](#)

Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report included the following:

Bowls Club AGM He had attended the Fox Bowls Club AGM on 24th November as per the Club's Agreement with EPC. The accounts to 31.10.2022 show a £675.54 deficit of income over expenditure which reflects the extraordinarily dry summer and the subsequent cost of watering. Nevertheless, there is a positive balance at the bank and the Club seems to be in robust health, well worthy of the trust placed in it by EPC in terms of the maintenance of the green. The strengthening membership runs counter to local trends which see other bowls clubs struggling and closing and is testament to the very healthy community spirit within the Elmswell club.

Poor's Land Charity He had attended with Cllr Pallett the AGM of the Poor's Land Charity on 28th November. The deadline for applications for Co-op gift cards towards addressing hardship was extended for a month to 9th January. Acknowledging current circumstances, emergency funding with a starting balance of £1,000 is to be made available in grants of up to £100 at the discretion of the Chairman in liaison with two other Trustees. Furthermore, a grant of £500 was agreed to the Stowmarket Food Bank. The rent for the Trust's remaining land holding at Town Field is to be increased by £25.00 pa to £175.00, this to hold for the 5 years of a new Tenancy.

Planning Appeal re Ashfield Road On

29th November he attended on-line the Appeal against the Refusal of Planning permission for 19 dwellings on land at the corner of Grove Lane and Ashfield Road. He was able once again to reinforce EPC's case that the more than adequate District Council Housing Land Supply removed any Planning case for this incursion into the countryside which seeks to present a more urban gateway to the village from the North by way of an unsustainable development from which residents would be dependent on car use. Local input was useful in confirming that the domestic lights suspended over the small practice kickabout area do not constitute a floodlit football pitch and that, not only is the bus service now reduced to one journey each way during school terms, but that, however often they run, the buses do not venture north of the railway line. The inspector's decision is pending.

Local Community Transport On 30th November he attended a meeting at Woolpit to assess support for a sustainable transport initiative to address the problems of rural isolation and the difficulties of accessing services for residents without a car. Mid Suffolk and SCC Ward Members and officers were present along with parish councillors from Woolpit, Norton, Thurston and Haughley. He and Cllr Pallett had recently met with Bethany Taylor, the Mid Suffolk officer overseeing sustainable travel, and made her aware of Elmswell's willingness to be part of any such scheme. Mid Suffolk are to pull together some of the ideas and areas for further investigation which the meeting generated as a basis for a future meeting.

Councillor Training The annual Councillor training session on Budget Setting and the Precept held on 5th December generated feedback which has informed the final document towards a well-considered decision on the Precept requirement for 2023 / 2024.

Road Safety Initiative He and Cllr Pallett met with PC Stefan Henriksen, Community Engagement Officer for the Safer neighbourhood Team, on 6th December to make him aware of the road safety initiative in which EPC is currently engaged with SCC Highways who will be seeking evidence of Police backing for the 20mph proposals.

They were also able to seek co-operation in helping ensure that our Community Speed Watch team has full Police support.

Community Infrastructure Levy He had attended on-line with clerical staff for a MSDC CIL update and refresher on 13th December. It confirmed that EPC is up-to-date and compliant with the CIL procedures and was a useful way of ensuring that staff are aware of the due process which encourages involvement in what is a very valuable area of resource.

Recycling grant The Trefoil Guild were thanked for their excellent stewardship of the Council's recycling facility at Station Road for the 3 months to 25th November and that a grant of £150.00 was made to the Guild's funds. Village clubs and organisations are open to apply to carryout a similar 3 month stint of daily attendance to ensure that the bottle, paper and clothing banks are in a clean and tidy condition and Council invariably makes a donation to the funds of the volunteer body.

Elmswell Tavern shares

Councillors agreed to purchase shares in the Community Benefit Society Elmswell Community Enterprise in the sum of £50,000.00 towards the proposed refurbishment and expansion of the Elmswell Tavern as a community pub and that whoever shall be the post holder, from time to time, of Clerk to the Council be the Council's Nominee.

Speed limit – old A45

It was agreed that Council lends support to the initiative to address the hazard of speeding traffic leaving A14 at J47a given the increase in commercial traffic using the old A45.

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

DC/22/04783 Erection of 4no. dwellings....Willow Farm, Ashfield Road GRANTED EPC objected

DC/22/04527 Discharge of Conditions DC/22/01615 condition 4...Land to the North and West of School Road APPROVED EPC made no comment

DC/22/04127 Change of use of land



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for highway vehicular access... Land to front of 16, 18, 20 and 22 Eastern Way

GRANTED EPC supported
DC/22/05512 Discharge of Conditions
 DC/22/01224... Holly Lodge, Cross Street APPROVED EPC made no comment

DC/22/05425 Application for display advertisements...Land to the North and West of School Road GRANTED

EPC made no comment

DC/22/05326 Erection of workshop & garage...Silver Birches, Church Road GRANTED EPC supported with proviso

DC/22/05895 Discharge of Condition 18 – Archaeology – Land to north & west of School Road APPROVED

EPC did not comment

Next meeting It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting was scheduled for Monday 16th January beginning at 7.30pm at Blackbourne. The public

are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council Committee meetings and the agendas will always offer opportunities for questions and comment.

Agendas are published online at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.



recycle

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'Real' trees can be left at this site from 7am on Thursday 5th January, until 6.30am on Wednesday 18th January.

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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mid Suffolk DISTRICT COUNCIL

Working Together

Future Council Meetings

Notice of all meetings and agendas is posted on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
16th	20th	20th	17th	15th

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

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

Staffed Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00am-4.00pm

Thursday & Friday 9.00am – 12.00noon

And other times by arrangement

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VILLAGE INDEX

**Useful contacts for community groups & others...feedback is essential.
Do be in touch to correct or add details or to suggest someone else deserving of listing.**

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	eaa@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	John Welford	welford955@btinternet.com	240166
Baby & Toddler Group		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Bingo at Blackbourne	Brian Hawes		07761 125093
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
Blackbourne – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Brownies & Rainbows	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	
Community Speed Watch	Marie Spamanato	mariespamanato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Andy Mellen	Andy.Mellen@suffolk.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Ben Whatling (Captain)	benwhatling@mail.com	07760 174811
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Helen Geake	Helen.geake@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange afternoon WI	Maureen Davis	modavis6@gmail.com	
Exchange Club	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Chris Edmonds	edddd101@gmail.com	
Fox Bowls Team bowls at Blackbourne	Barry Hayward	barryhayward1902@gmail.com	240951
Friends of St Johns	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	242099
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Tammy	elmswellguides@outlook.com	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Voices (Choir)	Anna Wilton Mills	annawm63@gmail.com	
Library	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eaa@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Jen & Lizzie	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
Royal British Legion	Norman Plumpton (Biff)	nplumpton@aol.com	07707 524722
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Paula Hollings	ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 562485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Sewing Bee	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	c/o Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Wesley – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
WI - evening	Margaret Stevens	stevensmarg@tiscali.co.uk	408452
Youth Football	Wayne	wsast@hotmail.co.uk	

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What's On in Elmswell ?

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

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



January 2023

- 9 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Elspeth Rushbrook on The Titanic and a local survivor.
- 12 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Simon Milyard: Trinity House Lighthouses
- 12 Food ↗ Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 27 Bingo at Blackbourne with bar.

February 2023

- 1 Exchange WI Jonathan Houseago Hedgehogs & Hedgehog Preservation 2.00pm at Wesley
- 6 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Rachel Andrews on "An Eye Nurse Abroad"
- 9 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Elspeth Rushbrook: Local Survivor of "The Titanic", Violet Jessop

- 9 Food ↗ Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 21 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel. Speaker - Tim Fuller - 'Expectantly Hardy'

March 2023

- 1 Exchange WI Charlotte Morgan Dolls Houses & Miniatures 2.00pm at Wesley
- 6 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Lesley Williams talking about Parish Nursing.
- 9 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Geoff Robinson: 18th Century Commerce in Worlingworth
- 21 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel. Speaker - Ruth Goudy 'The Language of Flowers'

April 2023

- 3 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church. Lisa Jones on "Savvy Shopping".

- 5 Exchange WI Claire's House – finger pottery craft afternoon 2.00pm at Wesley
- 13 Elmswell History Group 23rd Anniversary meeting, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Miriam Stead: Halesworth's 17th Century 'Walpole Old Chapel'

- 18 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel. Speaker - Saffron Summerfield 'When Birds Sing'

May 2023

- 11 Elmswell History Group, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Movie Screening of Holly Brega's film "Land Girls & Horses of Suffolk"
- 16 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel. Speaker - Nigel Start 'Climate Change – a survival guide for gardens in East Anglia'

STOP PRESS

Regular sessions at Blackbourne & Wesley include:

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

JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE – Monday & Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30 ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com tel. 07711 680262

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

BATS- badminton / table tennis / pool at Blackbourne Friday nights 7 – 9.30 simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk

BOWLS - barryhayward1902@gmail.com tel. 240951

GUIDES - Monday evenings 5.00 – 8.30 elmswellguides@outlook.com

FOOTBALL - shaun.pratt@btinternet.com 07494 864231

RAINBOWS - elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com

JUNIOR FOOTBALL - smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591

CUBS Tuesdays 6.15 – 7.30 - claremariekeefe@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

MARDLE QUILTERS - last Friday monthly carpajak@aol.com

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

WI – evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm Terry Byford bbazby@aol.com

WI – afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk

ART CLUB at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 – 12.00 John Welford welford955@btinternet.com

HISTORY GROUP at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk

GARDEN CLUB at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com

CARPET BOWLS – Wednesday 7.pm at Wesley – jf.boxall@btinternet.com

COMPANIONS – every other Friday 10 – 12 at Wesley - linda@abbott.plus.com

PILATES – Monday & Friday mornings – suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk

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

ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK first Tuesday monthly, October-June 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

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: January 24th, February 21st, March 28th

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

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

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

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