

'Like a friend
dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



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

JUNE 2023

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud

Electrifying events at Pightle Close

... see page 13

Photo: Brendon Pyle

Wesley
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EST. 2020
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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; eaa.elmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

There are many who complain that Elmswell isn't the village they moved into 10 / 15 / 20+ years ago. It is, they say, full of strangers. Full of people who have only been here a couple of years and turn up with their kids to overcrowd the school and with their cars to make the railway crossing queues unbearable. And their dogs who must, By Right, it seems, have somewhere to toilet.

Before they arrived, there were people who complained that Elmswell wasn't the village they moved into either...and so on...all the way back to when the main complaint was the damage caused to the roads by the growth in commerce and steam lorries carrying bricks from Woolpit Brick Co. to the sidings at Elmswell Station. Less well documented is the discomfiture expressed by the poorer folk of the village in 1814 when the Act of Enclosure divided up the village's green common lands into more 'efficient' privately owned holdings, much to the benefit of the larger landowners...*plus ça change.*

Those who really, 'belong', may, perhaps, be those who were born here and have never left. They are fewer than once was the case given the perceived benefits of social mobility. Worth pondering, as an aside, how this increased ability to get to Elsewhere squares with our only having one bus a day into Bury? However, there are still village residents living in the house where they were born 60+ years ago, their arrival attended by a stern but caring midwife demanding clean towels and kettles of hot water. They are often in the forefront of those mistily remembering a Golden Age when pigs were herded down Station Road from the train to the Bacon Factory, when the shops had a half-day closing in the week and all day Sunday, when there were several pubs and when vandalism went no further than tying a bit of string to a door knocker and repeatedly creating a phantom visitor. Apple scrumping, jumpers for goalposts and a clip round the ear from a rosy-cheeked policeman. Such larks.

If sanity is to maintain in this context, it has to be accepted that, should a Golden Age there be, then it is now. Today being the first day in the rest of our lives together, we must, surely, look to better times, but only in the future. We can do something about the future. We can't do much about the past other than, some argue, pull a few statues down and burn a few books.

We have just seen a chance to do something about the future. We were, on 4th May, invited to show a selfie to an Election Officer who would then allow us to vote for the individuals who had put themselves forward as the movers and shakers best suited to take us into the next 4 years of betterment, improvement and progress. At the next level up, Mid Suffolk District Council took a giant leap into the unknown by decisively electing a Green Party administration. Unique and historic. If their councillors are all up to the standard of our very own Green Party Ward Members, this will be a good thing. If dogma overtakes common sense and issues around choice of one's pronouns overtake the efficient emptying of the bins (*Google Brighton & Hove*) we could continue making the national news, but for the wrong reasons.

Meanwhile, as we write, the Parish Council remains substantially as was, with one change but with, 'developments' which mean the final membership is yet to be determined. Politics is not your Newsletter's thing, but we have a finger on the pulse and repeat our oft-stated view, shared by others, that we are very well served at Parish Council level by good people, experienced people, all of whom are more than qualified to fill their roles. These are the people who have steered Elmswell to the forefront in terms of reaping benefit from extraordinary pressures of development. By taking

the developer contributions which come with the 40%+ more houses over the past 10 years and adding wisely, with the village's support, to produce the successes at Blackbourne and Wesley, to promise the same again at the Elmswell Tavern and to have a project list which includes our own genuine 'Affordables' on the Tavern site, more sustainable heat and power for our community facilities and beyond including a community wind turbine and, in the here-and-now, trialling a ground-breaking local taxi-bus service.

For the majority of our readers this is all a bit wishy-washy. The Council just, 'is'. What they do is OK as long as our own little bonnet-bees...litter, dog fouling., speeding...are addressed, even if not cured, let them get on with it. We would urge you, dear reader, to take a look at the report on page 30. They record undeniable effort, service and success which, by many accepted measures, goes way beyond what might be expected from a bunch of well-meaning volunteers willing to stick their heads above the parapet and put up with the inevitable criticism which comes with doing something rather than just talking about it on social media platforms. Surely, certain observers will have it, there must be a fiddle somewhere? No, just hard work and commitment.

Fiddle?
Music?

We are indebted to Tina Turner...the recently-passed diva of popular music fame once opined:

'The older you get, the more you realise it's not what happens, but how you deal with it'.



Rock-on Elmswell

CLUBS & SOCIETIES



ELMSWELL ART CLUB

In our monthly articles, we are always inviting new members to join our lovely club and we also aim to feature different art crafts and styles. This month we are able to demonstrate the success of both of these ambitions.

First of all, we are delighted to feature one of our newest members, Sarah Abercrombie.

Sarah has recently moved back to Elmswell – “the lovely village I grew up in”, having studied art in London, with a degree in sculpture and an MA in contemporary art practice and teaching. Sarah now teaches Art Foundation Diploma and Textile Design students in a sixth form college and says that she “joined Elmswell art club to meet creative people in the village and enjoy making in a social environment”. Currently working in a combination of drawing, collage and traditional printmaking techniques, Sarah has produced the following piece of art entitled “Wandering II”



This circular print is from a small series of art inspired by Sarah's woodland wanderings and being immersed in natural surroundings.

It's semi abstract so although not everything will be recognisable, it shows glimpses from memory and snippets from photographs. Drawing and printmaking are what Sarah is currently exploring and she enjoys making art inspired by nature and Japanese woodblock printing.

As regards the process, this is made from layering the prints made from carved blocks of plywood, it's a relief printmaking process similar to Lino-printing, where the block is carved away and the top surface is inked up. Pressure is then applied using a roller to transfer the image to paper. This print has been made from collaging printed shapes of birds and tree canopy so there's been lots of cutting and sticking small pieces of paper with rice paste in the Wesley Hall.

The following 2 pictures were produced by one of our longest serving members, Anna Hawes;

Anna describes these as “experimenting with gesso”. Gesso is very similar to white acrylic paint, only thinner – it is normally used for preparing (or “priming”) canvas surfaces for painting. It dries hard, making the surface slightly textured and ready to accept acrylic paint. Without gesso, the paint would soak into the weave of the canvas. However, Anna has been experimenting with using gesso as an actual painting medium and combining it with watercolour paints to produce these striking images of leaves.

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

Eddie Douglas 



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ELMSWELL WI

What do you do on Tuesday evenings?
On the 2nd Tuesday of each month Elmswell W.I. meet in the Wesley Centre at 7.30 p.m.

What do we do?

At our monthly meeting we have a speaker or a social event, lots of chat as well as a bit of business and of course tea, coffee and biscuits.

Why not give us a try? Bring a friend - your first visit is free.

Tuesday 13th June -

A Year of Bee-keeping

Tuesday 11th July -

90th Birthday with Fish & Chip Supper

Tuesday 8th August -

The Real Robin Hood

Tuesday 12th September -

British Sign Language

**Lifts can be arranged
- for more information
ring Brenda 01359
242924**



ELMSWELL W.I.

We held our A.G.M. and Angela, a W.I. advisor, came along to support us. Brenda reminded us of all the interesting activities and experiences, which we have shared, during the past year.

Terry, our treasurer, went through our finances and reassured us that they are healthy.

Unfortunately, Margaret Stevens, our secretary for nine years, was unable to be there, because of illness. She is stepping down this year, after all those years of dedication and hard work. She has been the lynch-pin of our W.I., keeping members well-informed and supporting them, during difficult times. Brenda could not praise her enough..... Fortunately, Trish McNeeney, has volunteered to take over the role of secretary.

Brenda was re-elected as President, as were all of the committee. Kelly volunteered to join us and we are looking forward to working with her.

The resolution "Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife" was voted for by most members. Our Elmswell vote will be counted with those of other W.I.'s and eventually hopefully influence the government. The appalling state of our rivers and surrounding sea is unacceptable and action is long overdue. Trish told us about her fundraising idea of a Paper Quiz, and then we all finished the evening by having a chat and answering a quiz with animal answers.

Next month we are having a talk about the fascinating life of bees.

**Rosie Collins.
01359 241652**



OVER 55's CLUB

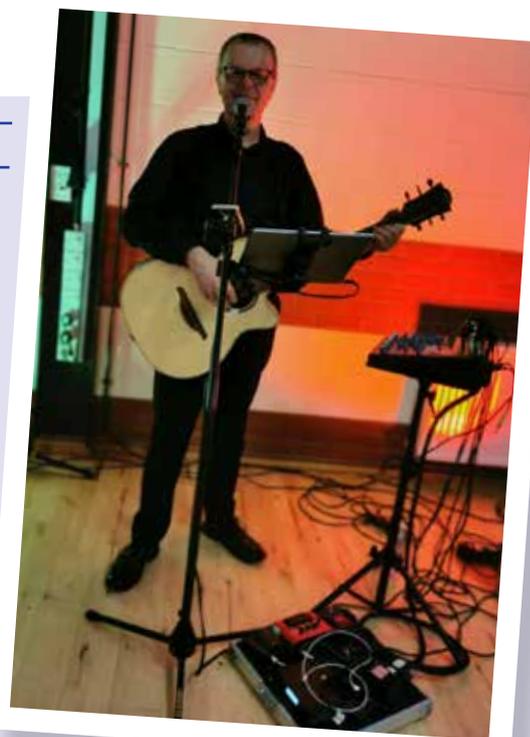
Since our last report we had a splendid evening in the company of Bob Whiting who kept us entertained with a large selection of songs from his wide collection of music we even had our own dance group up on the floor including a trip round the hall doing the Conga lead by the chairman seated on her walker.

On Thursday May 25th we had our first trip out when we headed to Oulton Broad to the Wherry Hotel for a Carvery Lunch, this was followed by a 90 minute trip on the Waveney Princess across the Broad and along the river as far as the village of Burgh St Peter before returning back to our starting point it was then time to board the coach for home arriving back by 6.30pm, a good day was enjoyed by all be it a little bit breezy on the top deck of the boat!

June meeting include Cash Bingo followed on June 22nd when we have a return visit by "Suffolk's own comedian" Richard Whymark who will be bringing all his many friends for an evening of laughter this is an open evening with a small admission charge of £5 for visitors, no need to book just turn up for a 7.00pm start.

Many thanks to Barry for our photo gallery.

Diann & Grant





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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB

Elmswell Gardening Club enjoyed a very interesting talk - 'Climate change - a survival guide for gardens in East Anglia'.

Nigel explained that one of the main problems is the extremes of weather we're now getting. In usually fairly dry areas, like Suffolk, there have been longer periods of drought, although when there is rain it can be much heavier.

There are several ways to try to mitigate these changes. Firstly the need to manage water shortage by collecting as much rain water as possible during wet weather. Using water butts is an obvious solution to collect water coming off our homes. One interesting idea is to build a simple open-sided construction in the garden with a sloping roof and guttering leading to a water butt. That way even more water can be saved.

Another way to help plants is to protect the soil by using a thick mulch on the flower borders. The mulch helps to prevent moisture in the soil from evaporating. In addition, it gradually breaks down adding nutrients and improving the humus content of the soil.

Choosing suitable plants which can cope with the changing conditions is also essential. Plants with deep roots tend to fair better and any with waxy or hairy leaves, as they tend not to lose moisture so rapidly. The 'winners' include ivy, holly, yew, mistletoe, potentilla, philadelphus, iris, native geraniums and ferns - which are best planted in shady locations.

Spring bulbs can also be relied upon as they have flowered, died back and become dormant before the worst of the heat arrives.

In the vegetable garden Autumn planted garlic, onions and broad beans are usually reliable. Heat loving crops such as sweetcorn and sunflowers can tolerate hotter summers. One other unfortunate problem for gardeners is that the warmer weather has brought over more 'pests'. The warmer winters allow them to survive and thrive. The use of fine netting on crops is often the best way to counteract their advances.

Our next meeting will be a trip for the members to Mickfield Nursery on the 20th June.

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

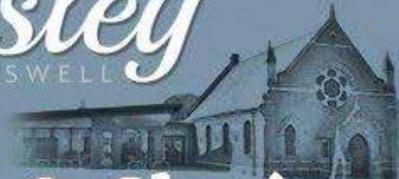
The club email is elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com and is a good way to to ask any questions you might have.



Wesley

ELMSWELL

EST. 2020



Coffee, Cake & Clarinets

(with a Jazz band to finish)

Sunday 4th June in the Chapel 1.30pm - 4.00pm

Tickets to be purchased from the Coffee Shop or the Blackbourne £5.00 Ticket includes, Tea or Coffee and a cake!

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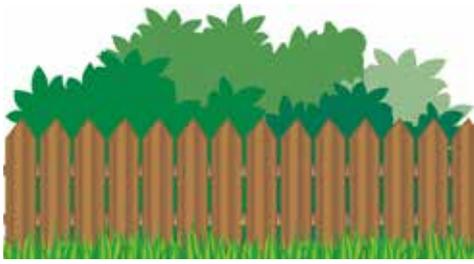
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THANK YOU to those who have already cut back hedges which are next to the road or pavement so as to make it easier for people to pass safely.

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



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UPDATE FOR JUNE...



Thank you...

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for delivering the 2 containers seen in the picture. They priced them very reasonably and delivered them, expertly, Free Of Charge. The storage space they provide will soon be filled with some £7,000's worth of commercial catering equipment donated from a supporter to help fit out a much extended kitchen which will replace the old outhouse shown here.



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MEANWHILE...

- ✓ All 279 Shareholders, whose £185,000 investment has moved the project on to the next stage will soon receive their certificates and will gather for the first time as a body before the first AGM of Elmswell Community Enterprise (ECE).
- ✓ Plans are well enough on to allow the QS, civil engineer and Project manager on the team to set an initial time line suggesting project completion in September next year.
- ✓ There are 2 funding bids in with Mid Suffolk and with the Community Ownership Fund which could yield a significant boost and the search for other significant possible funding sources continues as the project takes shape.

For all queries contact ECE at the Parish Council Office at Blackbourne - email elmswelltavern@gmail.com telephone 01359 244134

DONATIONS are welcome by cheque or cash c/o the Parish Council Office at Blackbourne or directly via BACS: Elmswell Community Enterprise Limited 08-92-99 67224900

All comment, feedback, advice and offers of other support are very welcome.





ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

The Women's Land Army in Suffolk

It was with a high degree of anticipation that members and guests attended our May meeting for the screening of Holly Brega's new film about the vital roles played by Suffolk women during and after the Second World War. This being a first such film screening for our History Group, the packed audience were rewarded with not only a colourful and moving documentary, but also by the personal attendance of Holly herself who was able to join in our discussion afterwards.

In 1942 the survival of Britain hung in the balance. Nazi 'wolf pack' submarines patrolled our seaways in large numbers. Their purpose was to deprive our nation of vital food supplies and, very quickly, starvation became a real possibility. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the call went out for the rapid deployment of the Women's Land Army. All over the country, volunteer female recruits, later known either as Land Girls (on farms) or Lumber Jills (in forests), left their normal occupations for a life of farming and forestry. The part they played in our winning of the Second War is of great historical significance.

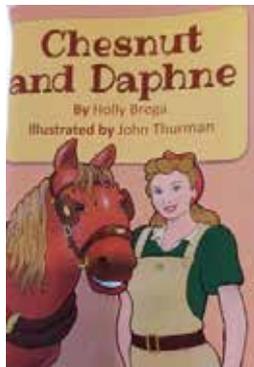
Land Army women needed many skills - milking, tree felling, ploughing and harvesting were all normal tasks for them. Some skills were taught in special centres, such as Chadacre Agricultural College near Shimpling, the Timber Corps at Culford, and others on special farms. Badges were awarded for particular skills and, in 1944, Daphne Hedges of Henley was awarded a special 'Pest Destruction Proficiency Badge'. She was a rat catcher!

The lives of the women who willingly joined The Land Army were far from easy. They often started work at six in the morning and, sometimes, five thirty! Their work could be heavy, and injuries were always a possibility. With the men away fighting, there were no alternatives for women but to just 'get stuck in'. The handling of animals had to be carried out with particular skill and care. One lady, interviewed as part of Holly's film, described how intimidating a farmer's cattle were when she was first given the task of handling them.

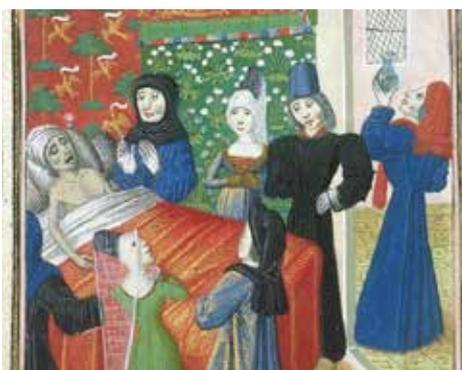
During WW2 working farm horses were still very common and, for the women assigned to land work, this meant dealing with the Suffolk Punch, a breed of ploughing horse well known for its size,

sturdiness and difficult temperament. The film fully explained how, although the Suffolk Punch had become an iconic symbol of Suffolk, it would probably not have survived into the post war era were it not for the work of the 'Land Girls' during the war years.

Holly has also published a vividly illustrated children's book about the W.L.A., which would suit new readers in the 5-7 age range; £6.99, published by Land Girl Adventures.



Finally, she told us that Stowmarket's Food Museum (formerly M.E.A.L) is carrying out extensive research on all Suffolk land girls, so look out for a forthcoming exhibition on this topic. The film raised many social issues and, when it was finished, provoked a great deal of discussion over our tea and biscuits. Holly Brega has published a vividly illustrated book for children about The Women's Land Army. It would suit new readers in the five to seven age range and costs £6.99. Land Girl Adventures are the publishers.



Our next meeting on **8th June** at the **Wesley**, will start at the earlier time of **7pm** with our **A.G.M.** This will be followed at 7.30pm by a change to our published programme - a talk from Joy Hawkins (medical historian and UEA lecturer from Norwich) on "A & E in the Middle Ages". We will learn that the types of injury sustained then were much the same as today, and some also arose from encounters with domestic and wild animals. Barber surgeons will feature, and the cures used in those days are sometimes

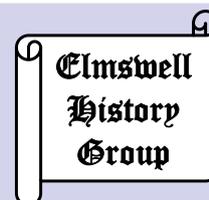
still in use today as pharmacists have studied the documented treatments and identified the active ingredients which are being included in modern medicine. Do join us then to find out much more.



Behind-the-scenes **Tour of Ipswich Archive "The Hold"** - one morning during week commencing 26th June. Cost is £5pp, own transport, more details at our 8th June meeting or from Peter McGee on 01359-244001.



Summer Outing - Guided Tour of **Bury Cathedral, 13th July, 7pm.** First-come-first-served Tickets (at £13 members, or £15 non-members) are now on sale from 01359-242601 or at our 8th June meeting or any time before end June. The tour will include the options of the Tower, Ancient Library, and Abbey Ruins, followed by refreshments in the on-site Refectory.



For further information about our History Group, please visit our website -

www.elmswell-history.org.uk

or contact our Secretary, on 01359-242601



THE BLACKBOURNE BIG HEDGE PROJECT

The development of 106 houses at Ashfield Road, brought with it, from the original owners of the adjacent land, an extra 6 acres of land adjacent to Blackbourne to extend the outdoor space there. This new land will free up space nearer the main building for the extra car parking space which is so badly needed as well as presenting an opportunity for more recreational green space to add to the original 11 acres.

The land is fenced off and ready for work on draining, levelling and seeding.

When the original Blackbourne Meadow was gifted to the village in 1995 as part of the Blackbourne estate Planning permission, a community weekend involving hundreds of villagers, young and old, from across a wide range of clubs and organisations along with many individuals keen to make a mark in a useful way planted an excellent hedge of mixed native species which has matured and now offers enormous benefit of protection on a very windy site.



Hedge plants in the tree nursery ready for planting

We need the same again around the new land.

We need the Big Hedge Project!

We have a date! **Saturday 25th November**, at the start of National Tree Week.

Now that the date is decided, I will be contacting various groups to discuss how they might be involved. Put the date in your diary! We are planning a day where groups come along to maybe plant their own stretch of hedge, or help with others.



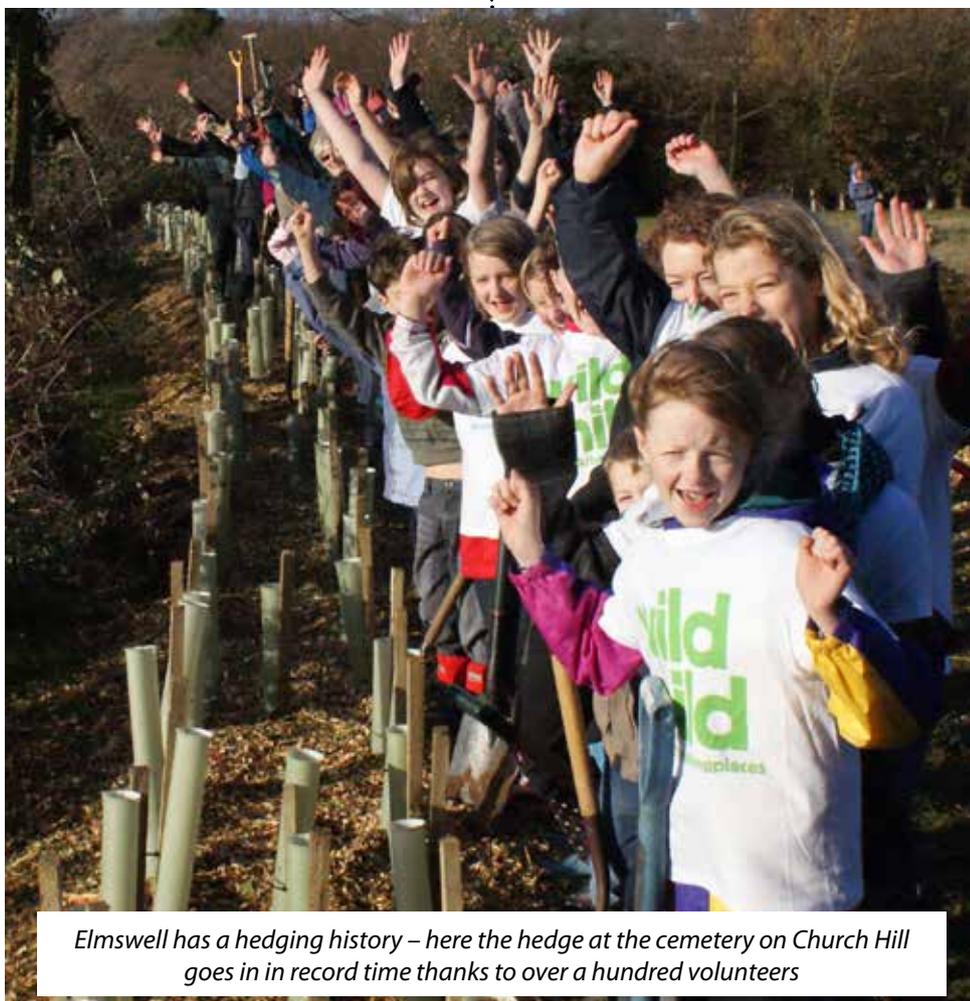
The hedge at Blackbourne 25 years on

And anyone else in the village, young and old. There will be refreshments and facilities in the Blackbourne.

The fence is now in, marking the new piece of land, and where the hedge will go. It is exciting to see it all coming together. I will be ordering more of the hedge plants from the Suffolk Tree Warden Network and Woodland Trust, to add to those we already

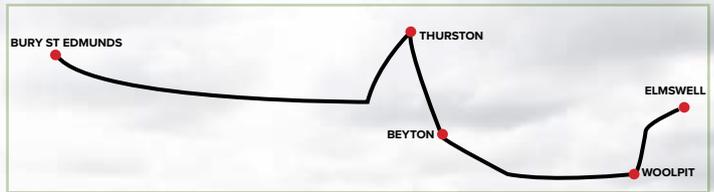
have in the tree nursery at the library. We have been lucky with the wet spring, but now have to start weeding, watering and replacing the mulch. If anyone would like to help manage the tree nursery, do get in touch.

*Janet Spencer, Tree Warden
(janet.spencer14@yahoo.com)*



Elmswell has a hedging history – here the hedge at the cemetery on Church Hill goes in in record time thanks to over a hundred volunteers

NEW



TAXI-BUS SERVICE TO BURY

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. There is to be a 4 week trial of 8 seater taxi buses offering a return trip to Bury on Wednesdays and Saturdays beginning Saturday 3rd June.

- ✓ The return fare from Elmswell will be £6.00
- ✓ Booking essential 2 days in advance
- ✓ Leaving Wesley car park in Elmswell at 9.30 am – gets to Bury about 10.15 having called at Woolpit, Beyton & Thurston
- ✓ Return from Bury at 1.30

To book ring **01359 244134** weekdays between 8.00am and 4.00pm or call in or email the office

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SATURDAY 17th JUNE
WEDNESDAY 21st JUNE
SATURDAY 25th JUNE
WEDNESDAY 28th JUNE



And if it provides a service that is wanted and is used it will continue....

Enquiries to Ann or Lucy at the Council Office
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clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

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The Pightle Close Party People need little excuse for a community get-together. Here they celebrate the new King's accession and coronation with hats, flags and glasses of refreshment.

ELMSWELL LIBRARY

Hello Elmswell,

The exhibition this month is of Marian Lishman artwork. Marian Lishman is an abstract artist who is on the Suffolk Open Studios committee. Her focus currently is on a body of abstract expressionist work which allows her to experiment with mark making and colours and patterns with a lot of her work transitioning to become aerial views of seascapes.

The theme for this month's display is Graphic Adaptations. They are stories that have been turned into graphic novels. We have a mix that includes Neil Gaiman's Chivalry, Shakespeare's Hamlet, Miss Butterworth and the mad baron by Julia Quinn, Juliet takes a breath by Gabby Rivera, 1984 by George Orwell and Anna Sewell's Black Beauty.

Suffolk Libraries have online Jumpstart activities. You can book onto a free fitness class, including Pilates, Zumba

and more. All our health and wellbeing classes are free to attend. Online Pilates is 7pm – 8pm every Monday, Online Zumba is 9.30am - 10.30am every Tuesday and Online Legs, Bums and Tums is 5.30pm - 6.30pm every Wednesday. For more information visit <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/whats-on/annual-events/jumpstart/jumpstart-events>

We are still recruiting volunteers for the Summer Reading Challenge so if you are interested in helping help let us know.

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

Chess Club

Starting 4.30pm Thursday 8th June (every 2nd Thursday of the month)

The Keep in Touch Community Café

10.30am on Wednesday 21st June at the Wesley Café (every 3rd Wednesday)

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



ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Greetings from St John's Church

This picture is a view that has stayed with me since the 1980s, when I was on board an airliner that flew over the River Nile. I was struck at how this line of blue, with lush green either side, breaks up the endless expanse of yellowish-brown desert. Water makes all the difference, changing the land from death to life.

May was a busy month at St John's as we celebrated the Ascension of Jesus, started a new teaching series looking at the New Testament letter of 2 Peter, heard from a speaker on his work in South-East Asia and then marked Pentecost with other *Christians Together In Elmswell*.

Pentecost is a celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early church. Jesus promises the gift of his Spirit (his presence) to all who turn to him. He likens his Spirit to life-giving water. In the same way that the waters of the Nile transform the lifeless desert, so too can the Spirit of Jesus transform our lives and bring eternal life. This is such a wonderful promise. If you would like to find out more, you are always welcome at St John's Church. We meet every Sunday at 10:30am and also have groups for children at this time, which look at a story from the Bible and make a craft. Tea and coffee are available afterwards.

Fancy an entertaining evening out? On Saturday 10 June at 7:30pm, *Nutz and Boltz* and friends are playing at St John's. This promises to be a very enjoyable and entertaining concert with music from the sixties and seventies. No tickets are required. Simply turn up with your own drinks and nibbles and a donation.

During June, we also have a special service for the Friends of St John's on Sunday 18 June at 10:30am, followed by lunch in the church. The Friends of St John's is now coming to a close, having raised over £50,000 for the Fabric of the church since 1995. We are very grateful for all they have done for the church.

Upcoming Dates:

Sun 4 June 9:00am

Holy Communion

Sun 4 June 10:30am

Family Service

Sat 10 June 7:30pm

Nutz & Boltz concert

Sun 11 June 10:30am

Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 18 June 10:30am

Friends service followed by lunch

Sun 25 June 10:30am

Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 2 July 9:00am

Holy Communion

Sun 2 July 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: www.youtube.com/@stjohnselmswell



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a lovely way to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation. And it all helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

For the summer months the lights will be on between 8.00 p.m. and midnight.

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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

Your support is very much appreciated.

All bookings and payments to :-

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

Thank You.

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16 anon.

22 anon.

JUNE 2023 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 remembering Amy Pleasance, a dear Mum, Grandma and Great Grandma, on her Birthday.
- 4 in memory of Hector & Ruth Francis. Lots of love. All the family.
- 5 in memory of Hector & Ruth Francis. Lots of love. All the family
- 8 remembering Lesley Manning on her Birthday. Love Colin. XX.
- 10 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 11 remembering with love, a dear husband and father, Dennis Atkins, on his Birthday.
- 24 in loving memory of our dear Mum, Zena Booth.



CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest: Rev. Simon Leworthy,
The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road,
Stowmarket, IP14 1BQ
Tel:01449-612946
E-mail: pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk

MASS TIMES:

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

Sundays – 8.30am & 10.15am

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket
IP14 1AW

Holy Days – 10am & 7.30pm

Our Lady's Strickland Road Stowmarket

Weekday Mass is usually 10am, see the weekly Newsletter or the Parish Website – www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

All are welcome to "Coffee and Chat", 2 – 4pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. This is held in the Parish Hall above the Church – a lift is available.



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

I wonder what stood out for you most over the Coronation weekend? For me one of the most striking moments was when the King was degarbed and stood in very simple clothing ready for the anointing (I couldn't find an image of this).



A very powerful symbol of the recognition that, before God, the King is like any other person and stands in needs of forgiveness and needs to repent in front of the King of Kings (Jesus). There is no other way to get our relationship with God right other than to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and to then seek to live a life that is in accordance with his teachings. We will all have to stand before him and account for the way we have lived, but no end of good works can save us if we have not acknowledged Jesus as being our Lord and Saviour.

Last month our dear friend, Charles Rudland went to be with his Lord at the age of 93. Charlie started coming to the chapel when he was courting Doreen Pearson and took over the role of Church Secretary from Doreen's dad and kept the position for over 30 years before handing over to me. Charlie and Doreen worked very hard over the years in keeping the work going here, we will miss him even though, since Covid he was unable to attend worship. We rejoice in the sure and certain knowledge that he is now with Jesus, who he served faithfully over a long life. His Thanksgiving Service is here at the chapel on Wednesday June 28th, it will be early afternoon but the exact time has not been confirmed yet.

The Ladies Friendship Group meet on Monday June 5th at 2pm when Sam

Reid will be coming to talk about "Bury Rickshaws". ALL ladies are welcome. There are an increasing number of ladies attending these meetings, why not join them?

Phone Margaret on 01359 241541 for more details.

There are no meetings in July or August, meetings resume on September 4th when Tony Diamond will be coming to talk about The Astonishing Life of Queen Victoria.

Food 'n' Friends meet at Midday on June 8th for a good meal for a donation of whatever you can afford, and plenty of time to chat. ALL older folk are welcome.

Contact Jackie on 01359 245918 for more info.

We are grateful to all those who come to preach each week. Our preachers at our 10.30am services in the coming weeks are as follows:-

June 4th

Rev. Norman Tharby – inc Communion

June 11th

Mark Partridge – All-Age Café Service

June 18th

Rev. Rodney Sawtell

June 25th

Rev. Norman Tharby

July 2nd

Rev. Norman Tharby – inc Communion

A warm welcome is extended to all who wish to participate in any of the above events.

Please visit our website for further info or email cockant2@btinternet.com or telephone 01359 241541 to get in touch.

God bless you all.

Tony

On Sunday 2nd July, The Friends of Elmswell School (FRESCH) will be hosting a village-wide SALE TRAIL to raise money for Elmswell Community Primary School.

The Elmswell Sale Trail is an exciting charity event, where the traditional village fete meets the car boot sale! It will be a fun family day out with surprises and games along the route, with something to entertain everyone. On the day, visitors are invited to stop in at the fire station, where alongside maps of the sale route there will be a selection of refreshments (and cake!) Plus the chance to get up close to the resident fire engine! The free map will lay out the route of stalls and visitors can then set off around the village to take part in the Sale Trail and activities.

If you would like to take part in the event, Pitches are only £5! So whether you are looking to have a clear out or make some money for your business, everyone is welcome. Every house that is taking part is listed on the map. If you are a non-Elmswell resident that would like to take part, get in touch and we can also allocate you a pitch.

FRESCH is a registered charity that organises events and fundraises for Elmswell Community Primary School. We really hope that you will join us for what promises to be a really fun event in support of your local school.

Please contact us on: fresch.elmswell@gmail.com

Elmswell Primary School
Elmswell Sale Trail
Sunday 2nd July 2023
10am - 2pm

Scan the QR code to buy a £5 pitch and get added to the Sale Trail Map!
Or head to: <https://friends-of-elmswell-school.sumup.link>

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NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

In June we are very pleased to welcome back **Fay Jones** who is well known in these parts as The Woodland Haberdasher. Fay will be sharing her knowledge of natural dyeing using a variety of natural materials and a range of yarns and fabrics.

**Saturday 17th June, 10.00-4.00:
Colours of Lukeswood (natural dyeing).**

All materials and tools are provided (some will be foraged from our own woodland!). Suitable for ages 16 plus. Children of 13 plus are very welcome to attend with a supervising adult working together.

Our regular workshops at Lukeswood provide tea and coffee, but please bring a packed lunch. We will be outside but under cover (thanks to our wonderful roomy new marquee) and our eco loo will be available.

The session costs £25 per person, payable in advance. If you would like to book a place or to get more information, please contact us – email info@elmswild.org.uk or ring 01359 241901.



Elmswild Cubs received their Chief's Scout Silver Awards. This is the highest badge they can earn in Cubs and we're so very proud of them! We meet on Tuesday nights at The Blackbourne 6:16-7:30. New members will be welcome, and volunteers, too!

Akela

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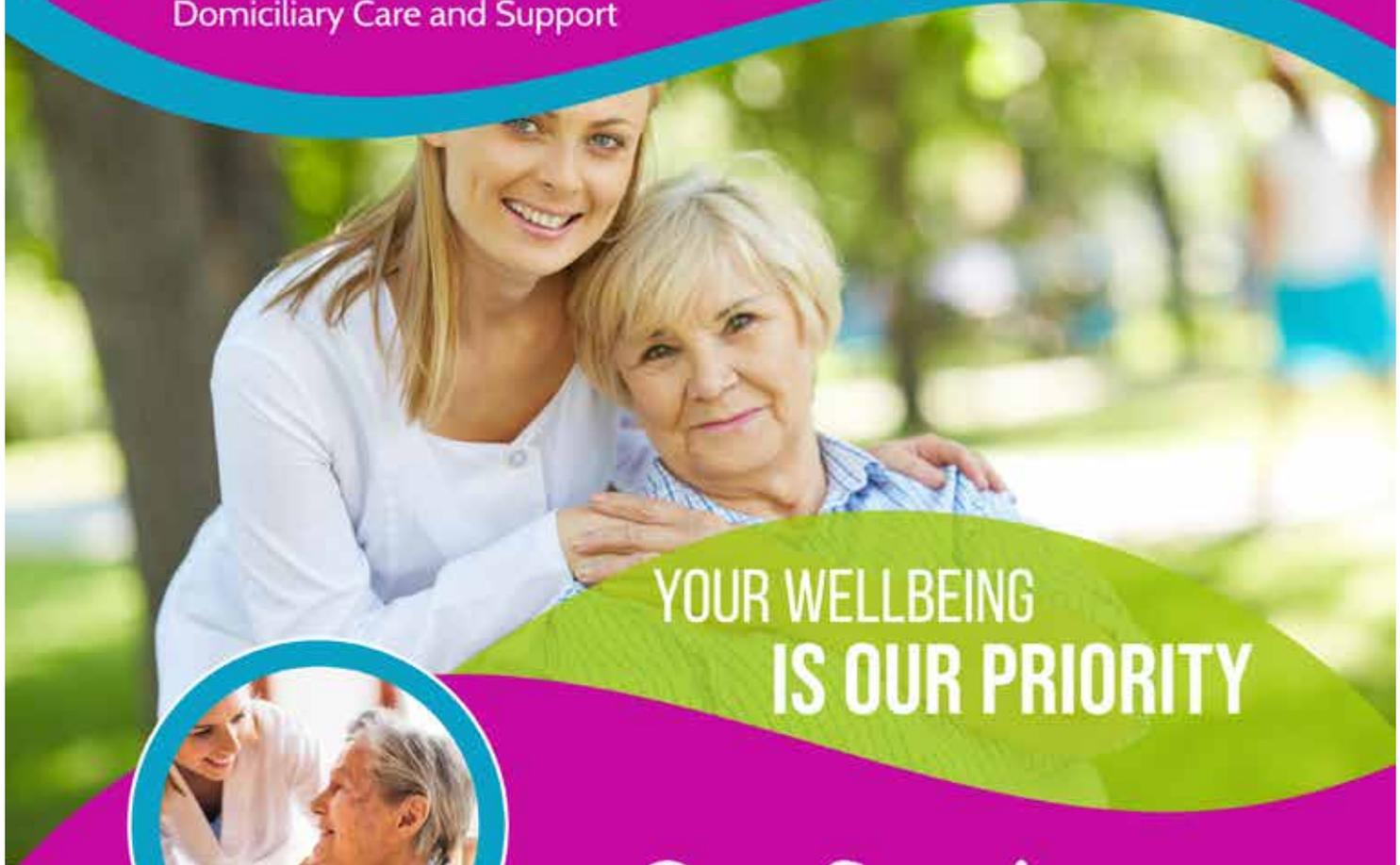
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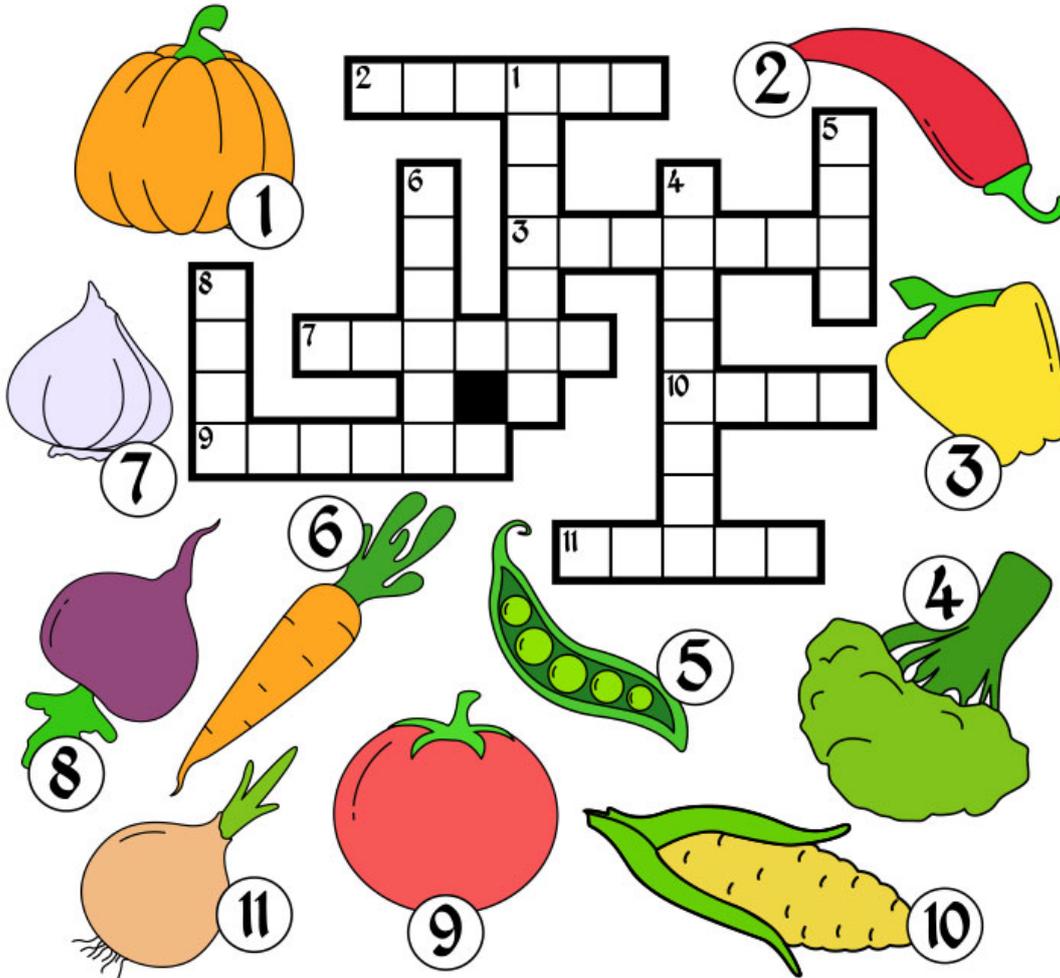
Way to go...

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

All walks start from the village sign on Crown Mill.



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FIRST TEAM REPORT

The First Team came into the last month of the season on decent form, with a good draw against Sporting and a 4-1 away win against Gt Blakenham. We wanted to keep that momentum going and finish strongly to see how high up the table we could climb.

First up was a much improved Bardwell side who we'd thrashed 13-0 at home earlier in the season. This time it was only a 1-0 win. Romaine Scott got the goal and captain, Oliver Chaplin was MOTM.

It was a similar story going away to a Stonham Aspal side who have been in the bottom two for most of the year. It was much tougher than the first game but we came out 3-0 winners. Goal scorers were the prolific Will Hayden, with a brace, and Zarzo Palian with a long range effort late on to wrap things up. MOTM was Charlie Potter.

Last game of the season was away to Copelstonians Reserves. Could we stretch our unbeaten run to five games? It was a tough battle but we got a point for our efforts. Final score 1-1. Will Hayden scored and Sam Bassett was MOTM.

Sadly Josh Kelly aka 'Dragon' had to go to hospital after the game with a nasty fractured cheek bone. They operated the next day, putting a plate in and he is making a good recovery. There's also more good news in the First Team camp as manager Liam Trickey became a father last week! Our love to the new family.

We had a few weeks off and then met up on Saturday in a sunny beer garden to give out the end of season awards (pictured). Team Captain Olly Chapman (above) cleared up, winning most MOTMs, Player's Player and Managers Player. Wil Hayden won the Golden Boot averaging a goal a game over the season. Romaine Scott won the Top Assister prize. Erica and Isla won the Supporters Award and there were a few comedy prizes too.

After a slightly shaky start to the year the First Team have grown and developed handsomely, ending on a five match unbeaten run and finishing in 7th place in Div.2 of the SIL. Things are looking up for next year with a new kit being sponsored by MATTHEW HOMES and a few signings in the offing.

Lastly thanks to the Management Team, Liam Trickey, Charlie Potter and Ash Farmer for their hard work during the season, our sponsors on this page and our kits and to all of you who came to support us or follow our exploits here in print.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE please contact club secretary Ed at edddd101@gmail.com



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RESERVES REPORT

We'd been putting a shift in during April with six games to squeeze in. We'd started with two home wins and were getting good points on the road but injuries and holidays often start to play a part at the time of the season. Having played Saturday, Wednesday, Saturday we were then due another midweek game away to Stow Falcons 'A' on the first Thursday in May. It was a rare treat to welcome Ed Hodgson and Harry Baker back into the team but we still only managed to take one substitute. From the off it was clear that Falcons were playing several of their Reserve players and this was going to be much tougher than the 7-1 demolition we inflicted on them at The Blackbourne. The lads fought like trojans and through a great flowing move from Ally Clarke to Hodgson to Luke Catchpole who returned it to Hodgson to hit the back of the net, we took the lead. We were forced to make our one substitution at halftime due to injury. The lads dug deep and through a mix of grit, determination and ever tiring legs, we managed to hold them off for the three points. MOTM went to Hodge but everyone was outstanding.



Two days later, after that arduous 90 mins, we had to try and raise ourselves for the final game of the season against Somersham. From the whistle we looked tired and off the pace but managed to do enough to keep the score at 0-2 despite not having much of the ball. In the second half it was much the same but still only another two goals were conceded through an own goal and a probable offside. MOTM was Ben Jolly. It was a shame to end in such a way but the fixture congestion finally took its toll. We can take lots of spirit from many of the performances we've put in recently and take that into next season.



We finished 8th in Div.6 in the end but only the top five had a better goal difference. With some more consistent availability we could do great things next year. Watch this space.

We had a few weeks off and then met up on Saturday in a sunny beer garden to give out the end of season awards (pictured). Most MOTM Award went to our goalkeeper Jason Brown who also had the most starts over the year. The Golden Boot was won by Luke Catchpole who was also a very close third place for the Players' Player Award. The Player's Player was shared between team captain Aidan Ashton and Kieran Ramsey, both of whom have been rocks at the back. Manger's Player went to Kieran Ramsey for his stalwart attitude to the team and the club as much as his consistently high levels of performance on the pitch.

News of PRE-SEASON training will be in here next month. NEW PLAYERS WELCOME. Contact edddd101@gmail.com



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CITIZENS ADVICE

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk are looking for volunteers to provide vital support in the community – can you help?

The charity supports people all over Mid Suffolk from their office in Stowmarket, providing free, confidential, independent and impartial advice. Demand for the charity's services has continued to increase, and the wonderful team of volunteers are paramount to the help Citizens Advice provide.

The team are seeking volunteers from all kinds of backgrounds to support local people with their problems. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided.

Citizens Advice volunteers come from all walks of life and choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. Volunteers are often looking for ways to make use of

their skills or to gain valuable experience and make use of the fantastic training. They also enjoy the opportunity to meet different people and be part of a friendly, welcoming team of existing volunteers. They find it rewarding to support local people and make a difference to their lives.

Current volunteers at Citizens Advice said:

"You gain skills and experience that stay with you for life. There is a great support system in place...it makes you feel like you are part of something great."

"The most enjoyable part of volunteering is seeing the difference we make. You meet a person who might be nervous and not know what will happen to them - in some cases

they will be quite distressed. At the end of the day they leave smiling and thanking you for all that you have done for them."

"As a volunteer, you're made to feel an equal and valued member of the team. Volunteering with Citizens Advice is not only mentally stimulating but also very rewarding."

"I volunteered to help others, but didn't realise how much I would get back! I love the feeling of satisfaction at the end of the day and the feeling you get from being part of a brilliant, friendly, professional and happy team."



Mid Suffolk

Interested in volunteering? Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk would love to hear from you! Go to midsuffolcab.org.uk/volunteer or call 01449 676060 for an informal chat.



WESLEY UKULELE BAND

We did a couple of gigs in April after I had sent my article in, the most notable of which was at the Market Cross Art Gallery when we followed three classical acts. We took to the stage, our first 'stage' performance after a violinist, a cellist and a harpist. Undaunted, we launched into our most popular songs, avoiding the kazoo, which I thought was a mistake. I argued that, if we were going to take the event 'downmarket' we should do a proper job of it and take it all the way. I was out-voted. We entertained the U3A at Thurston Green Community Centre on the afternoon of our performance for the Over 55s at the Blackbourne in the evening. Once again, the Over 55s gave us a rousing reception and a generous donation. On Saturday, May 13th we played at the United Reform Church in BSE and helped them to make £260 profit. We did 2 sessions and gorged on delicious cake in between. We have a couple of gigs lined up for June so I'll cover those next time.

Kevin's Ukulele Festival has been adapted a little to widen its appeal and will now



feature not only Uke bands but pop and folk groups, too. It will happen on Saturday, July 1st and will be completely free. You can have a free stall, too, if you wish and give a donation if you have a good day. It will be entirely down to you.

For information, or to book a Ukulele Festival stall, please call Kevin on 01359 240604 Or email: Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com

The first afternoon Folk Club got off to a good start so do check it out on Wednesday, June 16th.

This month's photos are from Cornwallis Care Home and setting up for the United Reform Church in Bury St Edmunds (our second 'stage' performance, being a foot and a bit above the audience)



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ELMSWELL SPORT

ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

It is early days being just 3 weeks into the season but, I have to say that it is a case of 'mixed fortunes' across the teams as a whole. The Monday team has suffered two crushing defeats at the hands of Brandon, who are top, and St Botoph's (Botesdale) who are third in the league. Now, there are two possible reasons for their success. One explanation is that they are among the better clubs in the competition, and the other possible explanation is that they have played against us! Tomorrow, we are due to play one of Coney Weston's two teams in our league and they haven't won a match either, so it might give us a better idea of the strength of the Division. I made the mistake of telling Kevin Knock, our (friendly)Village Warden, that he would win more matches than he lost this year and he is still chasing that elusive first victory!

The Thursday team is faring much better. They are mid-table with 18 pts having



won 3 from 4 games played. The point system is a bit complicated. A team scores 3points for an overall win and one more for each 'rink' that you win. This means that there are 4 more points to play for as each team fields twelve players. Tuesday results remain a bit of a mystery as league tables are traditionally difficult to get hold of. It 'feels' as if we are doing OK without tearing up many trees.

We will be present at Marion Abbott's Exhibition Day at the Wesley on Saturday,

July 8th so do come along for a chat and find out all about us. We are always on the look-out for new members and we are very welcoming by nature so please don't be shy. The Wesley coffee and cakes are not bad, either!

Peter Fifield and Pauline Collins and Jenny Murray resident in their new club shirts

*Peter Edmonds,
E.F.B.C.*

07860 395720

edmondspeterj@gmail.com

FOOTPATH WALK 15TH MAY 2023

A disappointingly dull Sunday morning attracted 6 parishioners to the May Elmswell footpath walk.

The party took the familiar start of FP10 parallel to the railway line with a left and right heading out of the village on FP9.

A left turn took us on to FP6 across a rather sticky field in the hope of finding better underfoot conditions as the walk continued.

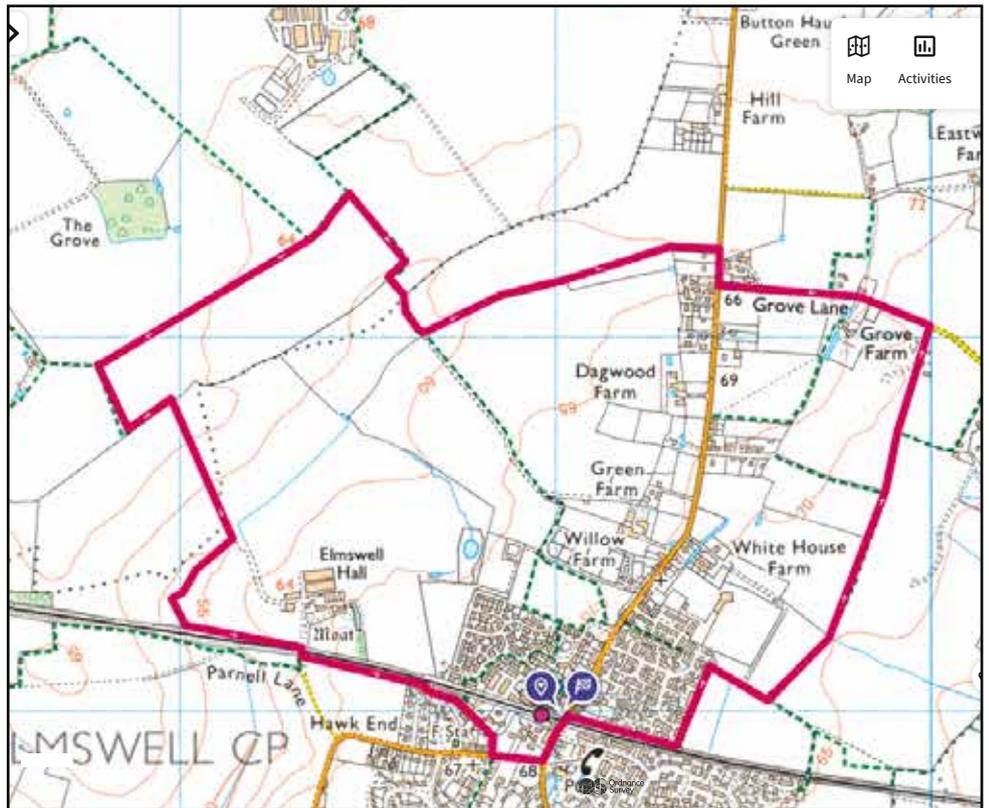
Heading northish we crossed the new footbridge towards Grove Lane and thankfully left the worst of the wet conditions behind us.

Turning left on to Grove Lane the group passed the sad sight of the fire ruined thatched cottage at Half Acre which has stood

in this parlous condition since January 2016. In March of this year full planning permission was granted by MSDC to demolish the sad structure and replace it with a modern, contemporary residence.

Right on to Ashfield Road was followed by a left on to FP3 as the day brightened and coats were removed.

The views opened up as we travelled east turning right on to FP1 and on into the parish of Norton where FP1 morphed into FP32.



A right, a left and further left took us on to FP31 running alongside the tree belt leading towards Norton Hall.

A left before the barn took us on to FP7 which doglegged left and right over the footbridge. The footbridge gives first sight of the lovely view across the valley to the Church.

FP13 then circumnavigated Elmwell Hall leading back to civilisation at Hawk End Lane, on to School Road and hence Station Road and the end of the walk.

A late spring walk of 4.29 miles in 1 hour 46 minutes (an average speed of 2.4 miles an hour)

Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer



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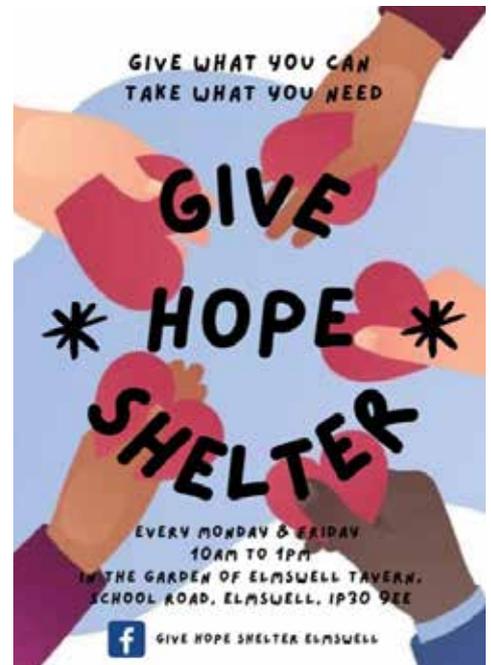
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PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AND FUNDED BY ELSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Council has met 11 times in a thankfully 'normal' post-covid year and the reports to the Elmswell Newsletter accurately reflect the year's activities.

In no particular order, I list here some of the points arising as a result of results of Council's efforts since our last Annual meeting in May 2022.

- Council has supported ElmsWild in their hard working initiative to restore Town Field as a sustainable resource for the village by undertaking to pay the annual rent due to the Poor's Land Charity.
- Having kick-started the Elmswell Community Land Trust with its specific first brief to take further Council's aspirations for affordable community homes on the Greene king site at School Road we have made some progress towards finding a partner towards unlocking governmental Housing Revenue Grant support but have had to suspend the initiative pending the review by MSDC Cabinet of their proposals for 50 homes at School Road with a high proportion of affordable units apparently mooted.
- I have personally brought to the fore, with the considerable help of Cllr David Brown, road safety issues which become more pressing by the week as more houses are built-out. There is a comprehensive scheme to mitigate problems at the New Road / Cooks Road / The Street junction to be triggered now that the School Road closure is lifted. We have agreed to a traffic count at Warren Lane to ascertain the level of misuse by HGV's, particularly during the A14 long-term works. If this proves to be a substantive problem, it will be addressed with new signage. We have been involved in the efforts to mitigate the dangers of poor parking behaviours at the school and SCC are in process of additional restrictions here.
- We were the first local council in Suffolk to install electric vehicle charging points both at Blackbourne and at Wesley. As early claimants under the SCC 'Plug In Suffolk' scheme, this future-proofing facility came at no up-front cost to the village.
- The long-held aspiration to somehow address the shortfall in community transport links to Bury finally came to fruition by co-operating with 3 neighbouring villages to provide a twice-weekly taxi-bus service to begin as a month long experiment on 3rd June.
- Council was central to the community objections to the MSDC proposal for an 'exemplar' development of 50 houses at School Road on land which we have identified in talks with SCC Education Officers and others as a potential site to allow primary school provision for Elmswell children to stay in the village. This culminated, as above, in staying the hand of the proposers of the Mid Suffolk scheme and allows the chance for full and proper consultation with the long-term interests of Elmswell at stake.
- The publication of a NALC Local Government Code of Conduct gave us the chance to adopt a rather tighter control of what is required of your councillors over and above

the Suffolk Local Code and this was duly adopted. We have had no issues in that regard, neither has the standing Complaints Committee had to meet to deal with any public referrals. Council has retained its General Power of Competence which, effectively, allows it to act outwith Specific Powers and to do anything an individual can do provided it is not prohibited by other legislation.

- We have finally lodged a draft Neighbourhood Plan with Mid Suffolk and an Inspector has been appointed. If it is compliant the Plan will be the subject of a Referendum later this year.
- A long-term project, much affected by covid, has been completed with the provision of 6 rooflights in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne together with rain-check and blackout blinds. This addresses the ventilation problem in the hall which is now often used by large groups not anticipated when first built in 1998.
- We have also upgraded security and management at Blackbourne by having installed comprehensive CCTV coverage of all outside areas. The increasing use of the facilities there makes it essential that we can see what is going on without necessarily being on site.
- Procedural problems relating to the drainage swale on the new 6 acre site at Blackbourne have taken up considerable time and effort and, again, my thanks to David Brown for his very specific professional advice on the matter. This having been resolved, we would be looking to have the ground levelled, drained and seeded this year.
- Issues arising from the closure of School Road have been pursued throughout the process on behalf of residents suggesting that the refusal to use Cooks Road to split the traffic was ill advised. We are now trying to have an input to the final Safety Audit on the resulting layout to have the dangerous pinch points re-engineered. Similarly, we have consulted with and continue to monitor the contractor regarding the concrete replacement works on A14.
- Over the year, the team behind Council's administration has been strengthened by the addition of our Caretaker/Handyman, David Austen, who undertakes all minor works formerly contracted out as well as caretaking & cleaning duties at Blackbourne, Wesley and the Elmswell Tavern as necessary and by the further training of our Clerical Assistant, Lucy Holt, who is assuming certain management responsibilities including at Wesley and for the licensed bar service now offered at Blackbourne. The gradual widening of the responsibility base between employees is a deliberate policy of succession planning looking to the day when our existing Clerk, who has been a Jack-of-all-trades for many years, gives way to a replacement who might expect a rather more conventional pattern of working.
- Wesley has continued to grow as a vital community hub. It has featured as a 'Warm Place' over the fuel crisis months and, as trading figures confirm, is increasingly popular with residents and visitors alike. It links in, by virtue of vouchers for food and

drink, with the Elmswell Food Bank which Council has supported over the winter, not least by providing an operating base in the Elmswell Tavern on Monday and Friday mornings until building works begin.

- The Council has continued its support of the Elmswell Community Enterprise group as it moves closer to funding the refurbishment of the Tavern as a community pub. The Lease agreement whereby the premises are passed over to the Community Benefit Society is currently under discussion.
- I was pleased to meet with our Internal Auditor during his examination of Council's policies, procedures and accounts in a year when the Precept was held at last year's level in recognition of difficult financial times for many people. He confirmed, as per his Report, the probity and efficiency in which the Clerk's office is run and my thanks to The Clerk and his staff for maintaining a consistently high standard in parallel with excellent service to the public.
- As one of only 6 of Mid Suffolk's 123 parishes in which a contested election was required, Elmswell can assure its electorate that its Council members are democratically chosen. The change of just 1 member suggests broad support for the Council over the past 4 years. However, the loss of David Brown is significant given the professional skills and personal energy he brought to further Council's initiatives. It is to be hoped that he will continue to serve as selflessly as before as a volunteer. We welcome Cllr Arnold as bringing different energies and talents. My personal thanks to our Ward members, Cllrs Mellen, Mansel and Geake, the latter having give way to Cllr Jen Overett. We have always enjoyed full co-operation from our Ward Members over the past 4 years and their attendance at most of our Council meetings has been helpful and supportive.
- Over a very busy year I must make mention of the excellent support and administration from the Clerk and his staff. They have absorbed considerable new workloads and challenges and seem by all accounts, and as confirmed by the recent Audit, to be serving the village to a very high standard.

I look forward to Elmswell Parish Council's next 4 years with several exciting projects already under way – our community Taxi-Bus, a wind turbine at Blackbourne, extended car parking at an ever-busier Wesley, and with a personal commitment to the innovation and forward-thinking that has enabled the Council to serve the village so well under the undoubted and continuing pressures of housing development. At the recent Annual Parish Meeting, Cllr Andy Mellen, who has wide and frequent contact with the parish councils within his jurisdictions as both a District and a County Councillor, suggested that Elmswell should be aware that they enjoy the benefit of an outstanding council. I trust that we can continue to live up to his informed assessment.

Cllr Fred Pallett
15.05.2023





- 1 Following an on-line meeting with other interested parties and with VERTAS on 18th April, I called a meeting the following week at Wesley including representatives from Woolpit, Beyton and Thurston with a view to kick-starting an actual taxi-bus service into Bury without recourse to further theorising involving a wider and necessarily diffuse field of possible beneficiaries. This meeting agreed with a framework which has coalesced into action as outlined to EPC in my Report to the April meeting where I was assured of support from Council for a trial 4 week run of twice weekly return journeys. The underwriting of any possible losses is scheduled for formal consideration on the May agenda. The other Councils have agreed a similar undertaking, and the service, in the worst case scenario, might cost each council £78.00 over the 4 week trial. Any budget should take account of the possibility of one of the other council's dropping out. This has provided a useful short-cut towards achieving an aspiration first raised in a meeting a year ago between myself, our Chairman, Suffolk Connecting Communities, and MSDC, addressing the problems caused by the withdrawal of any reasonable bus service. It may well prove to be the springboard to broader village-based public transport provision.
- 2 On 19th April I met on-line with Kelly Dibbert, Project Manager at Community Energy South, which is a body working with Suffolk's local authorities to help establish community led energy projects. They are looking to identify 10 groups that could benefit from business development support and seed-corn startup funding towards developing a local initiative helping to reduce the region's carbon emissions. Elmswell's aspiration for a wind turbine on the new land at Blackbourne supplying cheap electricity to the community facilities and houses in the neighbourhood would seem to satisfy the basic requirements for consideration and our Expression of Interest is noted. Meanwhile, through Cllr Hancock, a local resident with considerable recent practical experience in the field of wind generated community energy has come forward to advise.
- 3 I attended, as Council's Appointee Trustee, along with Cllrs Pallett and Burch, a meeting of the Poor's Land Charity on 24th April. It was confirmed that the rent for 2023, paid by EPC on Elmswell's behalf for the Town Field holding, is received. Support for the Elmswell and Stowmarket Foodbanks was agreed to be an appropriate way of achieving the Charity's objectives, that the Emergency Funding provision should remain and that the Co-op gift vouchers be retained as the medium of benefit to applicants at Christmas. The

Clerk to the Trustees agreed to look into various suggestions for diverting some of the capital funds held into higher interest-bearing accounts. Finances remain robust and it is clear that the Charity's administration is in excellent hands.

- 4 The Council's Internal Auditor, Dave Crimmin, spent the day on 25th April, inspecting and examining all aspects of EPC's affairs both in hard copy and on line, having previously searched the Council's website which includes all papers tabled at meetings and other relevant documentation. He spent time both with Ann Brett, as Assistant to the Clerk, and with Lucy Holt, our Clerical Assistant, who holds certain accounting responsibilities related to Wesley and the licensed bar activities at Blackbourne. He had access to any and all paper records including the findings of Council's own Internal Control Report signed off by Cllrs Barker and Hancock on 11th October last. He met with Cllr Pallett as Chairman and commended EPC for its progressive approach to serving the community under such relentless pressure from housing development. His report is due for noting on the Agenda.
- 5 As last year, Dave Crimmin also conducted, without charge, an Independent Examination of the BWMA. He presented a written Report confirming the proper conduct of its activities and that all income and audit trails were in order.
- 6 Following up, as requested, the reasoning behind what is considered by many to be a less than optimal result at School Road following the extensive reconfiguration there, I received this from the SCC Cabinet member for Operational Highways:

As mentioned in the previous response, widening of School Road would result in an increase of speeds on this road and further traffic management such as speed humps or chicanes would be required. In the past 5 years, there has been 1 slight accident on School Road involving 1 car so there is no collision history on this road. The recent works did not reduce the carriageway width and the situation has not changed with regard to opposing vehicles meeting. Although there is a higher volume of vehicles from the residents of the new development (approximately 40 in the peak hour) widening was not required. It is considered drivers will wait near at pinch points at the locations previously used to allow HGVs to pass.

With regard to the Stage 3 Safety Audit, the audit team comprises of 2 qualified independent safety auditors, the design consultants, a representative from the police and SCC engineers. The Audit Team examine the scheme from the point of view of all road

users and may decide to drive, walk and/or cycle through the scheme. A Stage 3 Road Safety Audit is visited during daylight hours and during the hours of darkness, so that hazards particular to night operation can be identified. As mentioned in the previous response, the team will ensure comments raised by the community will be highlighted to the Safety Team so that the concerns are considered during the audit.

I have requested direct input to the Safety Audit Team but will, in any event, continue to reinforce the concerns expressed to Council.

- 7 The beginning of a new term of Office offers the chance for councillors old and new to undertake training with SALC. I can furnish details on request.
- 8 Last Thursday's Annual Parish Meeting was attended by 16 members of the public with all Ward members present along with Andy Moore, Community Liaison Engineer with SCC Highways. Suffolk Constabulary could not find an attendee despite first contact being made on 27th March. I have expressed disappointment and copied in our PCC. Similarly, MSDC Planning Department was not represented despite an invitation at that same time and I have passed on the Meeting's regret that the several Planning issues raised could not have the benefit of professional input. I recorded no outcomes from the proceedings which are not already the subject of due process.
- 9 I have served as Clerk since 2001, having previously served as a Councillor since 1987 with a brief interregnum of 4 colourful years out of office. In all of that time I have never known Elmswell Parish Council to have been a better servant of the community. The efforts and support of Members has allowed what, in the context of town and parish council activities, are considerable and clearly discernible benefits at Wesley, Blackbourne and emerging on the Greene King site whilst maintaining excellent day-to-day service in its many areas of responsibility and as a point of contact for any and all community queries. Our council is responsive to community need, as witness the recent Taxi-Bus initiative, and stands ever-ready to fight the village's corner, as per the recent Mid Suffolk proposal for the 50 house development at School Road. At the suggestion of our Auditor, I intend to submit an entry on EPC's behalf to the National Association of Local Councils' Council of the Year Award which will, at least, give an indication of whether my expressed view is reasonable.

Peter Dow
Clerk to the Council

• Climate Change and Biodiversity

Following the adoption of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plan the community path between Woolpit and Elmswell has been identified as a pilot project. SCC and MSDC officers are working together, and it is hoped that a bid for funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy will be made in the next couple of months. A route from Elmswell Church to the A1088 roundabout has been surveyed.

Mid Suffolk and Babergh became the first rural authorities to commission a full tree canopy survey, as part of the Biodiversity Action Plan

The solar carport at Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre is now produced electricity for the leisure centre. The Duck and Teapot Café at Needham Lake opened in Spring 2022 and is a great asset to the popular visitor attraction.

The 'Tree for Life' project continues annually to plant a tree for every new child in the district.

• Housing

MSDC and Babergh Councils launched Central Suffolk Lettings to increase access to good housing across the districts. The Council continues to help households with Disabled Facilities grants and as well as enabling homeless people to access suitable housing.

• Planning

The technical consultation period about the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local plan part 1, following the recommendations of the inspector closed at the beginning of May. MSDC currently has over 109 years housing land supply.

No MSDC planning decision have been overturned at appeal during the past 2 years.

Locally the planning application for a fuel station and drive through restaurants at the A1088 roundabout was refused. Applications for further development at the Stag Cafe and Lawn Farm Business park have been approved, despite objections related to traffic issues in the vicinity. The School Road development is now well underway and the so-called road improvements, including the shared/cycle path have been completed – and are now awaiting the Stage 3 safety audit.

• Cost of Living

The Council adopted a 5-point action plan in May 2022 to ensure that residents get the help that they are entitled. Over 34,000 households were helped using the Government's Council Tax Energy Rebate, and several 'Warm Space' projects were supported. Several one-off grants were awarded to community organisations to keep buildings open without passing on increased energy costs to users.

• Economy

The virtual high street continues to help retail businesses in Needham Market, Stowmarket and Eye. The council also put on Careeriosity fairs for school pupils in the district.

Gateway 14 development is well underway. A large part of the site is now being constructed for The Range logistics hub, which hopes to bring in over 1,600 jobs to the district. The whole site should benefit from good walking and cycling connections and green corridors.

The Innovation Awards project rewarded some local small businesses including Natural Building Systems Ltd based in Palgrave, Modeca Architects and Virtually There Studios, both based in Stowmarket,

• Communities

We were pleased to be able to allocate all of our locality budget to community groups in both villages. The Elmswell based projects included:

- Elmswell Parish Council for the Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022
- Elmswell Parish Council for improvements to the Allotments
- Elmswell Poors Land Charity for some media costs
- Elmswell Parish Council to help set up the Foodbank
- Elmswell SEND Toddler Group for resources to help families with special needs
- Elmswell to purchase equipment for community activities
- Elmswell amenities association to help with the refurbishment costs at the Grove Lane facility.

Following the election of the new councillors in May 2023 the next round of Locality Funding will be announced shortly.

Mid Suffolk District Council information is available via www.midsuffolk.gov.uk or by phone **0300 123 4000**

The end of term report can be found here: <https://bmsdhosting.net/End-of-Term-Report/Mid-Suffolk-District-Council-2019-2022/>

We would like to thank the Parish Council for all their work done throughout the year.



Sarah Mansel

Mid Suffolk District Councillor –
Elmswell and Woolpit Ward

Email: sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk

Phone: 07860 829517



Helen Geake

Mid Suffolk District Councillor –
Elmswell and Woolpit Ward
(2019-2023)

Email: helen.geake@midsuffolk.gov.uk

Phone: 07548 154300



Jen Overett

Mid Suffolk District Councillor –
Elmswell and Woolpit Ward (2023-)
Email: jen.overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk



The May meeting of the Parish Council is the Annual Meeting – a sort of AGM, including the election of officers and representatives, with the usual monthly business attached. It was held in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne on Monday 15th with all 11 councillors present, along with the Parish Clerk Peter Dow, Clerical Assistant Lucy Holt, and District Councillor Ward Member Jen Overett, together with 4 members of the public.

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

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line 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 17th April Ordinary Council meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

Election of

Officers and Post Holders

Cllr Fred Pallett was unanimously elected Chairman of Council for the coming year and Cllr David Barker was unanimously elected to the post of Vice chairman. Cllr Hancock agreed to continue in the role of Footpath Officer and as the Council's representative on the Elmswell Amenities Association. The 4 appointees to the Poor's Land Charity were confirmed as Mrs Linda Waspe, Cllrs Burch and Pallett and the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow. The BWMA representatives, Cllrs Burch, Hancock and Shaw, continue to serve. Ms Ann Richards remains the liaison with the NHS West Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group and Cllr Shaw sits with Cllr Schofield on the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Cllr Sue Roots was confirmed as the third member of the Council's Newsletter Report Editorial Board joining the ex officio representatives, being the Chairman and Vice chairman of Council.

Annual Reports

Written reports were received from the Council Chairman for the year 2020/2021 together with reports on the year's activities from District Council Ward Members. These are published elsewhere in this Newsletter. It was noted that, as neither the Planning Committee nor the standing Complaints Committee had met during the year, reports from those bodies were not presented.

Accounts

The Clerk's office prepares an annual Statement of the Accounts for the year ended 31st March. These include the Balance Sheet, the Assets Register, which lists everything that the Council

owns on behalf of the village and notes disposals and acquisitions together with the original costs and current values, a fully itemised report on income and expenditure over the year and a Supporting Statement which outlines the current financial commitments. Approval of this Statement forms a key element of the Governance Statement made to the external auditor for approval. The Statement of Accounts was unanimously approved.

Annual Return

The Council's external auditor is appointed by the Government and requires an annual statement confirming that Councillors, aware of the financial and governance processes and procedure which are in place and having had free access to all accounting and other relevant documentation over the year, confirm their approval of the Clerk's Accounting Statement and Annual Governance Statement. Approval was formally given and minuted and the Chairman and Clerk were authorised to sign the relevant documents which now go to the External Auditor, Messrs PKF Littlejohn. All of the documents are available for public inspection at any time by arrangement with the Clerk. A formal period for inspection will be advertised between 5th June and 16th July. They are also published on the Council's website.

Risk Assessments

A schedule of Risk Assessments covering all aspects of the Council's responsibilities, including Financial Risk, was tabled and the Meeting approved these documents as representing a proper assessment of the risks and as demonstrating their

appropriate management.

Internal Audit

The Council annually appoints an independent professional internal auditor to examine and report on the finances, processes and procedures which have maintained for the previous financial year. The 2022/2023 audit was carried out by Dave Crimmin, as formally authorised by Resolution, and his Report was received by Council. It was formally noted and minuted that the accounts and other documentation were well presented for audit purposes with no comments or recommendations made which required other than a minor procedural action, since addressed.

Committee memberships

The Council has 2 standing committees. The Planning Committee exists to allow for the consideration of Planning applications when the timetable required by Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, cannot be met within the framework of Council meetings. The Committee did not have to meet last year as all of the consultation deadlines were managed within the monthly Council meeting timetable. The Complaints Committee meets when required to deal with complaints about the Council from members of the public. This Committee has not met since 2008. Consequently, no reports from these bodies were forthcoming.

Council Memberships

The Meeting noted the Council's memberships of Community Action Suffolk, Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Suffolk Preservation Society (CPRE), National Community Land Trust and Mid Anglia Passenger Transport Association.

General power of Competence

The Meeting formally noted that Council remains eligible to act under the General Power of Competence which, effectively allows it to act corporately to do anything that, generally, individuals can do and without reference to a specific legal Power to act. This eases the burdens of administration and frees up councillors to act in a more innovative manner than might otherwise be the case.

Mid Suffolk District Council

An Annual Report tabled by District Council Ward Members is reproduced elsewhere in this Newsletter. In a report on the activities in May, Cllrs Sarah Mansel and Jen Overett confirmed:

- In Mid Suffolk, 34 councillors were elected, with 24 seats for the Green Party, six seats for Local Conservatives, and four for the Liberal Democrats. The first meeting of the newly elected council will be the Annual Council Meeting held on Monday 22nd May. Councillors will elect their leader and chair and the cabinet will then be appointed by the council leader.
- These were the first set of elections in England where voters had to show a specific form of photographic identification before being issued with a ballot paper in the polling station. This requirement was introduced in The Elections Act 2022. We acknowledge there were a number of voters across Mid Suffolk who were unable to vote due to not having one of the specific forms of identification. MSDC will submit all necessary data regarding the impact of the new legislation to the Electoral Commission.
- MSDC is continuing to provide support for those who are struggling with the ongoing rise in the cost of living. Further information can be found online: <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/benefits/cost-of-living-support/>
- Mid Suffolk supported International Compost Awareness week (6th -14th May), by offering free compost at Needham Lake and Eye Community Centre. On average, more than a third of the contents of Suffolk's rubbish bins could easily be composted at home.

Each household in Suffolk could compost 150kg of organic material a year, turning this waste into free soil improver. The Suffolk Waste partnership is continuing its successful compost bin promotion. For more information visit <https://suffolkrecycling.org.uk/news/compost-awareness-week-competition>

- Several grants are available from MSDC. Capital grants are aimed at community groups to make repairs and improvements to village halls, play areas etc. Up to £10,000 can be awarded to cover up to 100% of the project cost. Community development grants of up to £20,000 can be used for both capital and revenue costs needed for the provision of local initiatives and activities. Applications need to be made by June. The Councillor locality grant scheme will be launched in the next few weeks.

Planning results

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

DC/22/01210 Erection of rear extension... Sunridge, Cooks Road APPROVED EPC supported

DC/23/01591 Tree works... 20 Oxer Close GRANTED EPC opted not to comment

DC/23/01855 Discharge of Conditions... Land to the West of former Bacon Factory APPROVED EPC opted not to comment.

DC/23/01849 Non-material amendment. Gages, New Road APPROVED EPC opted not to comment

DC/23/01407 Variation of Conditions Dagwood Farm APPROVED EPC supported

DC/23/01403 Tree Works Felecia, Church Road APPROVED EPC opted not to comment

DC/23/01172 Two storey rear extension, Robins Nest New Road GRANTED EPC Supported

DC/22/03966 Reserved matters... Land to west of former bacon factory GRANTED EPC opted not to comment

DC/23/01326 Reserved matters... Holly Lodge, Cross Street GRANTED EPC Objected

Planning Applications

The Meeting supported applications for Planning Permission and for Listed Building Consent for extensive works at Elmswell Hall in Parnell Lane under references DC/23/ 01734 and DC/23/01732. It was agreed that no comment was necessary reference DC/22/04767 regarding the Discharge of Condition 4, the Construction Method Statement, on land to the west of the former Bacon Factory other than to ask that close liaison be established between the contractor and the Parish Council towards the management of nuisance which might be caused to residents living on the existing estate and through which construction traffic must pass.

Storage at Elmswell Tavern

The Meeting agreed to the purchase of 2 No. 20 x 8 one-trip shipping containers to be sited at the Elmswell Tavern for the storage of catering equipment recently donated to the project as well as materials related to the forthcoming building works. The total sum allowed is £5,450.00 and the supplier, Portable Space, have agreed to free delivery in light of the community benefit which will ensue.

Thank you

It was unanimously agreed that formal written thanks be extended to Helen Geake for her service as District Councillor from which she has now retired. As Ward Member her attendance at parish Council meetings was exemplary and her input to matters outside of meetings was always informed and constructive.

Road Safety Officer

In light of the preponderance of road safety issues raised at the recent Annual Parish Meeting and the continuing pressure of development on the village's highway infrastructure, it was agreed that the post of Road Safety Officer be created and that David Brown be asked to advise, publicise, encourage and monitor matters of road safety in the village and to act as custodian of the Council's Speed Indicator Devices.

Taxi-bus

A budget of £200.00 was agreed towards underwriting the 4 week experiment whereby a taxi-mini bus service is provided offering a return journey into Bury St Edmunds on

Wednesdays and Saturdays over 4 weeks beginning on 3rd June. The Parish Clerk's Office is co-ordinating the exercise on behalf of the other 3 villages involved, Thurston, Woolpit and Beyton.

Next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 19th June at 7.30pm in The Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council Committee meetings and the

agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

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 www.elmswell.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.

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| June 19th | July 17th | Sept 18th | Oct 16th | Nov 20th |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|

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

✗ Keep plastic bags out of your recycling.

✓ Please keep your recycling clean dry and loose.

Visit suffolkrecycling.org.uk for more information

Suffolk recycles

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Stowmarket Parish Church of St Peter and St Mary
7pm Saturday 15th July

Including the Choral Suite from Karl Jenkins' Armed Man, Mass for Peace, and other music and readings on the theme of peace

Free admission - Retiring collection for Stowmarket Relief Trust and Disasters Emergency Committee

Stowmarket Choral Music Director William Baldry

Handel's Monarchs

Saturday 17th June 2023 7.30 pm

St Mary's Church, Brettenham Road, Buxhall, Stowmarket, IP14 3DJ

Tickets £18 via: tickets@stowmarketchorale.org.uk or 07972 668180

Registered Charity 280488 www.stowmarketchorale.org.uk

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VILLAGE INDEX

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

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

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|---------------|
| Amenities Association | Jean Barker (Sec) | eea@elmswell.org.uk | 241135 |
| Art Club | John Welford | welford955@btinternet.com | 240166 |
| Baby & Toddler Group | | elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com | |
| Baptists | Dave Hollings | davehollings@btinternet.com | 241323 |
| BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis) | Mike Burgess Wilson | burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com | |
| Beavers | Ruth Salmon | ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk | |
| Bingo at Blackbourne | Brian Hawes | | 07761 125093 |
| BWMA | Peter Edmonds (Sec) | edmondspeterj@gmail.com | 241640 |
| Blackbourne – all enquiries | Parish Council office | clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk | 244134 |
| Brownies | Gemma Sutton | elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com | |
| CAB | | advice@midsuffolcab.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 | 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 |
| 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 Mondays & Wednesdays 9.00am – 4pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 12 noon and at other times by arrangement. clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134

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

What's On in Elmswell ?



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

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

June 2023

- 2 Mid morning - Elmswell HISTORY Group's Homecoming of a 1923 Steam Traction Engine in Tavern Car Park.
- 8 7pm, Elmswell HISTORY Group AGM at Wesley - immediately followed at 7.30pm by Speaker Joy Hawkins: "A&E in the Middle Ages". Summer Outing tickets on sale too.
- 8 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 8 Over 55's Club Bingo
- 13 WI at Wesley 7.30 Lewis Turner - A Year in Beekeeping
- 20 Evening visit to Mickfield Nursery
NB: No meeting in the Wesley chapel
- 22 Over 55's Club An evening with Richard Whymark and Friends for a Fun Evening all are welcome no need to book
- 26-30 Morning, Elmswell HISTORY Group - Behind-the-Scenes Tour of Ipswich Record Office «The Hold», £5 - details from 01359-244001

July 2023

- 6 Over 55's Club Strawberry Supper followed by entertainment by Gwyn Pritchard
- 8 10am-3pm, Elmswell HISTORY Group at Wesley's Village Groups EXHIBITION, free entry
- 11 Elmswell WI Fish & Chip Supper
- 13 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 13 Elmswell HISTORY Group Summer Outing, 6.45pm for 7pm, TOUR of Bury Cathedral's Tower, Ancient Library, and Ruins. Details and Tickets (£13 member or £15 non-member, includes refreshments) at our 8 June meeting or any time before end June from 01359-242601.
- 18 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, Outing - TBA
- 20 Over 55's Club Cash Bingo
- 28 Bingo at Blackbourne doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30

August 2023

- 3 Over 55's Club Felixstowe "The Hut" for Fish & Chips
- 8 WI - Graham Higgins - The Real Robin Hood
- 17 Over 55's Club Details to follow
- 25 Bingo at Blackbourne doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30
- 31 Over 55's Club Tyler Kemp Music OPEN EVENING

September 2023

- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 17 WI - Lindsey Farrell - British Sign Language
- 19 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel. Speaker - Suffolk Orchid Society 'How to care for Orchids'
- 22 Bingo at Blackbourne doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30

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** - 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@stowmarketsscouts.org.uk
 - OVER 55'S** - every other Thursday 6.30 – 10.30 Diann Armstrong tel. 241002
 - CIRCLE DANCING** - Thursdays 1.45 – 3.15 jenlerner@gmail.com
 - TREFOIL GUILD** - 1st Tuesday monthly lesley.grout@btinternet.com
 - MARDLE QUILTERS** - last Friday monthly carpajak@aol.com
 - MOO MUSIC** - Fridays 12.45 – 3.15 bury@moo-music.co.uk
 - WI** – evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm Terry Byford bbazby@aol.com
 - WI** – afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk
 - ART CLUB** at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 – 12.00 John Welford welford955@btinternet.com
 - HISTORY GROUP** at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk
 - GARDEN CLUB** at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com
 - CARPET BOWLS** – Wednesday 7.pm at Wesley – jf.boxall@btinternet.com
 - COMPANIONS** – every other Friday 10 – 12 at Wesley - linda@abbott.plus.com
 - PILATES** – Monday & Friday mornings – suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk
 - BINGO** – Blackbourne, last Friday monthly doors open 6.30...eyes – down 7.30
 - ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK** first Tuesday monthly, October-June. Diana Hollins 01449 736930 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: June 27th, July 25th, August 22nd

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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Most manufacturers recommend you service your car's air-con every two years, but many people wait until it's not blowing cold air. **Have you??**

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01359 242420



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