

'Like a friend dropping in'



# The Elmswell Newsletter



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

SEPTEMBER 2024

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

## Notice this?



Painstaking planting & maintenance by our Garden Club volunteers – their 15th year of brightening up the station, 2024 their best display yet!

Phantom planting by our unknown cunning cultivator



Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879. 2500 copies delivered free to households and to businesses in the community. A volunteer enterprise entirely supported by advertising.

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

**If you wish to comment, please do so via the office or by email at; eaa@elmswell.org.uk**

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

**We are collecting packets of knickers again.**

**So, unblushingly, say the WI in their report, perhaps appropriately, on page 3. Our pages can yield the occasional slightly unsettling factoid such as this. Sometimes requiring some intellectual effort -**

**as with the question on our Street Farm Nursery Children's Page.**

**'What do you call a fly with no wings?' The answer is, clearly, 'A Walk'.**

**You can see what they did there.**

**Your view on why they did it, and whether it was worth the effort might be seen as a fair reflection of how you view 'humour'.**

**A simple test, then:**

Is this  (a) a feather duster or (b) a tickling stick?

If you answered, (a) you may not find the following, 'funny'.

**Q. Describe yourself in 3 Words. A. Lazy**

If you tended towards (b) then you might appreciate this year's top joke at the Edinburgh Festival – **"I was going to sail around the globe in the world's smallest ship but I bottled it".**

**Or other Caledonian gems on offer:**

- ☺ **I've been taking salsa lessons for months, but I just don't feel like I'm progressing. It's just one step forward, two steps back**
- ☺ **I sailed through my driving test. That's why I failed it.**
- ☺ **My dad used to say to me: "Pints, gallons, litres" – which, I think, speaks volumes.**

The half-way house between joke-getters and those straighter-of-face is the non-joke:

- ☹ A weasel walks into a pub. 'Wow', says the barman, I've never served a weasel before. What can I get you?' 'Pop', goes the weasel...
- ☹ ...or a skeleton walks into a pub and asks for a pint and a mop...
- ☹ Then the question, 'What's blue and smells like red paint?' And the answer... 'Blue paint'.




Then, of course, there are the absolute non jokes:

It is absolutely no joke that School Road was closed for 4 weeks, poorly signed and without consultation to add a new sewer works to the recently refurbished fire station. The facility looks very smart. Press reports suggest it is smarter to the tune of £250,000.00. It is also better drained. The cost of the new drainage may be included in the contract sum, but the cost to the residents of Elmswell in terms of delay, frustration and poorer air quality is not included.

When the railway is closed for works such as this, the contractor is required to pay to, 'take possession of the line'. At a cost of some thousands of pounds per hour the work is carefully scheduled. The workforce is maximised towards a quick job. The various phases of the work are timetabled and dovetailed so that the job

is done within the possession period – overruns are even more costly.

Accepting that there is no confusion like the confusion of a simple mind...if this business model were to be adopted by Suffolk County Council, as it is by many of the larger urban local authorities, the following steps might have been taken towards a quick, efficient job in contrast to the leisurely 4 weeks of community chaos;

-  SCC or their contractor could have consulted on the best way to route traffic for as long as a road closure had to be in place...thus avoiding the frequent blockages of New Road when 2 HGV's met head-on;
-  Parking restrictions could have been in place at the pinch points created by the re-routing;
-  When a total closure could have been avoided – perhaps by the use of the steel chequer-plate sheets which were on site over the excavations – a through-route might have been retained with traffic light control;

The workforce could have been more appropriate to the job in hand – it was the opinion of one of the regular duo who did the work that there could have been at least 4 of them on site at any time, thus reducing that time by, the back of an envelope suggests, 50%;



When the road was made good and all that remained was removal of kit and the road marking, the road could have been opened...it could have been running from Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. It took another 6 days for the chaos to cease. For the last couple of days, when there was absolutely no reason to deny access, locals were simply driving through a chicanne of signage thus further damaging the trust that the average motorist puts in the 'diversion' / 'closure' / 'men at work' warnings that litter our highways.

Enquiries have been made through local County Councillors as to why, throughout the length and breadth of the Suffolk this dangerous and aggravating pattern of behaviour maintains. Experience suggests that the response, should there even be one, will begin: 'The safety of our residents is our prime consideration...'

Which is a joke.



**WHY?**





## ELMSWELL ART CLUB

Last month, our team outing to The Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge was a great success, with our members and their guests receiving a guided tour of all the main exhibits before enjoying some free time to browse them in our own time.



Art Club guided tour

As well as many pieces of art by famous names such as Constable, Michaelangelo, Picasso, Rembrandt and Degas, the museum houses many examples of porcelain, ceramic, glass and enamel items through the ages. In addition, more than 750 items of Arms and Armour dating back to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century are on display. It's difficult to summarise the full range of artefacts on show at the museum but, as you can see below, our visitors thoroughly enjoyed the day;



This month we are featuring two paintings; the first is by Bob Coleman and shows a Sparrow perched on a water tap. Bob has really captured the bird's image as well as the form of the metal tap in his watercolour painting; he also used gouache paint to produce the highlights in the ivy.



The next picture is a fine acrylic painting of a seascape by Norman Tharby. His technique really gives the impression of movement for the rolling, crashing waves.



Finally, our **Art Show & Sale** is happening very soon – it will take place at the Wesley Hall on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. In addition to artworks, other crafts that have been created by our members will also be on display and available to purchase.

Eddie Douglas

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

### 2024 ART SHOW & SALE

ORIGINAL WORKS BY LOCAL ARTISTS

SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER  
& SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER

10AM TO 4PM

WESLEY HALL, SCHOOL ROAD, ELMSWELL

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## ELMSWELL W.I.

After Terry had welcomed members and visitors, she explained that we must now be more Health and Safety conscious and told us about the new rules we had received from Federation. Terry then introduced our speaker, Mary Newton, who was a forensic scientist for 40 years but has now retired. Mary gave us a talk entitled 'Blood, sweat and fears'.

Mary has been involved with many high-profile murder cases but she also had a short career involved with the TV series Silent Witness. She was co-opted to help, on the first series, with the forensics they wanted to show on the programme. Unfortunately, the advice from her was often ignored as it would not make good TV, so after a year, her boss, who was not very happy with the forensics portrayed, withdrew the help and Mary was back in the lab full time.

Mary gave us details about two major cases she was involved with, Stephen Lawrence and Lynn and Megan Russell. The amount of time and cost involved with looking into such cases is enormous. The men in jail for Stephen's murder were only convicted after the forensic evidence was looked into again, many years later, and after both had been found not guilty twice and

Mary thinks that the man in jail for the Russell murders, may not be the right person. Her whole talk was absolutely fascinating and we could have listened to her all evening.

We have several new internal clubs being formed – a Lunch Club, two Book Clubs and, in the autumn, a Wine Tasting Club. We also have several tours in the offing – a second visit to the Ancient Library at the Cathedral and also a tower tour there and a visit to a gin distillery in Bacton. We are also thinking about a Ghost Tour of Bury in the winter.

We are doing the refreshments at Elmsfest, as we did last year, and our members will make some delicious cakes. We have also collected empty

jars and filled them with sweets, coloured pencils etc. to go on the Children's Tombola stall.

We are collecting packs of knickers again, as we did earlier in the year, to send to Ukraine and the refugees on the Greek Island of Lesbos. We also continue to collect items for Elmswell Foodbank at each meeting.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 10th September at the Wesley. It starts at 7.30 p.m. (although we serve teas and coffees from 7 p.m.) and we will hear a talk entitled 'Journey to Citizenship'.

If this report has interested you and you think you would like to give us a try just come along, you will be most welcome.



## THE PLACING OF PLAQUES

Two new plaques have been installed at Wesley commemorating two significant contributions to our increasingly busy and successful community hub there.

The first noting the grant from the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust who possibly saved the chapel building from ruin when they paid for a new slate roof in 2002.



The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust was established in 1973 when a small group of church-lovers realised that, if Suffolk's historic churches and chapels were to survive for the future with increasingly small congregations, they needed financial help. The Trust is non-denominational and all churches, chapels and meeting houses, of any age, are eligible to apply for grants to help fund repairs or to make improvements. In fifty years, supporters have raised the equivalent of around £10 million in today's money from the membership fees of its 'Friends' organisation, from donations, grants, legacies, and, in particular, from the annual Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride sponsored event and, more recently, the Pedal and Drive Vintage and Classic Car rally. In 2002 the Trust granted the Elmswell Methodist congregation the money to re-roof their chapel. This ensured a long lease of life for the iconic building, now owned by the village as a key element of the Wesley community facility.

The second marks the more recent installation of the clock which was inspired by the chapel's rose window and painstakingly created by Steve Bushell with the support of funding from Wesley Ukes.



This clock was designed and built by local craftsman Steve Bushell. It was funded with help from The Wesley Ukes Group and unveiled in June 2022.








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## ELMSWELL FOOTPATH WALK Sunday 11th August 2024

A pleasant, temperate morning attracted a party of 5 parishioners to the usual starting place in expectation of a seasonal summer's stroll around the footpaths of Elmswell.

With a spring in our step we turned left onto Station Road, right into School Road and left again into Rose Lane heading south on FP17.

With the Telephone Exchange to our right we crossed Church Road into Spong Lane continuing south on FP16.

Branching half right we crossed the recently fenced sheep meadow, across an open field and half left into the shade of the now wooded FP16.



We passed Kiln Meadow on the right which is an area of Anglian Water owned land under the stewardship of ElmsWild where three types of orchids grow and there is a wildlife pond.

A right and left alongside the Water Treatment Works then brought us onto Kiln Lane where we turned left, now heading eastish. As the day warmed up the trees along the lane provided welcome shade.

Kiln Lane meandered left and right and hence met up with Warren Lane which we crossed onto FP22, continuing up the slope, past the plantation, past Warren Mill House on the left and into the wilds of the Parish of Wetherden.

Turning right onto FP25 we headed south again following the tenuous, insecure boundary with Lawn Farm Quarry until we met the old A45 and turned left.

Following the road for 400m we then turned left onto FP23, now heading north towards Warren Farm. A right and left at the style took us up the slope towards Wetherden Warren.

A left turn onto FP25A set us on the final leg of the walk back to Elmswell.

Passing Warren Mill House on the right this time we turned onto FP21, down to the Wetherden Road, turning left and meandering our way through the village back to Crown Mill.

An pleasing figure of eight route of 4.69 miles in 1 hour and 57 minutes (an average speed of 2.4 miles per hour)

*Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer*

## SEPTEMBER'S FOOTPATH WALK WILL BE ON SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER (THIS IS SLIGHTLY OUT OF SYNC DUE TO HOLIDAY COMMITMENTS)



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## CLUBS & SOCIETIES

### HISTORY GROUP



We hope to have a small display at this year's **ElmsFest** (FREE entry) on Sat 7<sup>th</sup> **September**, 12-5pm, at the Blackbourne, so do come and see us there then, when you'll have the opportunity of taking part in our free-to-enter competition with the chance of winning admission to one of our new season's talks (details in the What's On column).



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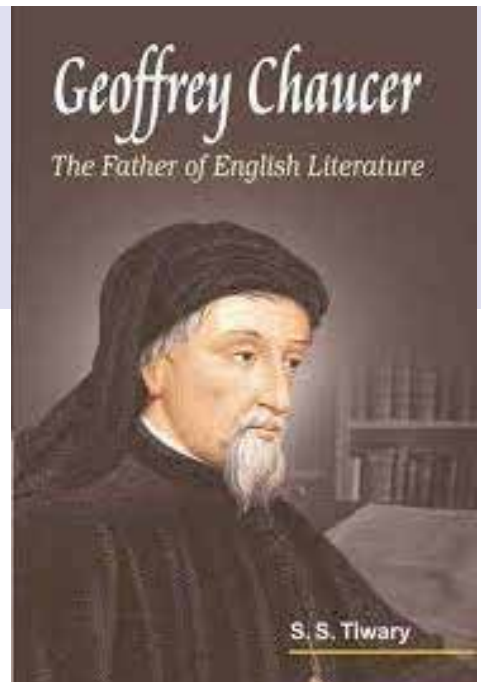




### FROM THE ARCHIVE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 1924 -

Suffolk County Library opened new premises in Northgate Street.

The stained-glass windows in the upstairs room represented many aspects of Suffolk public life – literary, political, ecclesiastical and industrial. Taking pride of place was the 14<sup>th</sup>-century writer, Geoffrey Chaucer (1343-1400) who, although a Londoner, was from an Ipswich family. His great-grandfather, Andrew Chaucer, had a hostelry on the corner of Tower and Tavern Streets, marked later by a brass plaque showing a pilgrim on horseback. Geoffrey Chaucer's father was a London vintner, but he also exported wheat from Ipswich. (Ref: Ipswich Society)



Dagworth still has what is possibly the only remaining example of a hop kiln building in Suffolk, now converted to residential use (but can still be viewed from the outside on the adjacent road/footpath and from passing trains), but Neil will also show us a 1912 photograph with it looking similar to a typical Kentish oast house with two conical roofs.

Please note that annual subs will be due on 12<sup>th</sup> September, being £12pp for one year's membership (Sept 2024-Aug 2025) plus £4 per meeting attended, i.e. £16pp at your first attendance; or, if preferred, a Visitor fee of £6pp each meeting. If all ten meetings are attended as a member, this works out at just £1 per week – excellent value for an informative evening's entertainment which also includes light refreshments afterwards.

We look forward to welcoming you back to the Wesley Hall next month for the start of our new 2024-25 season of historical talks with an East Anglian flavour. Our first talk at 7.30pm on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September** will be "**Hop Cultivation in Suffolk**" by local historian, Neil Langridge. He will highlight the cultivation of hops in the Stowmarket area since 1635, particularly in Old Newton and Dagworth, brought by Flemish weavers who settled in the area.

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

[www.elmswell-history.org.uk](http://www.elmswell-history.org.uk)  
or contact our Secretary,  
on 01359-242601

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## AS THE SUN SETS ON ELMSWELL COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE (ECE)...

- The Community Benefit Society, its job done, continues to transfer money donated by shareholders who have pledged to continue their support by donating to the Parish Council Tavern fund which now stands at £146,000.00.
- Deadlines are now set for ECE to be formally dissolved and the due process with the Financial Conduct Authority is well under way.

## ...IT RISES ON A NEW CHAPTER...

- The dissolution of ECE triggers access for the Parish Council to the £500,000.00 funding pledged through Mid Suffolk from building developers' contributions over recent years.
- The detailed plans and Scope of Works will soon be with the 5 local contractors selected from those who, following up the advertisement in the Press, expressed an interest in taking on the refurbishment and new-build project.
- The costed Tenders will be assessed and, once a contractor is chosen, the Contract will be placed and work can start.
- Until a Contract is agreed and signed, the timescale for the works is an unknown, but an informed guess would mean a 9 - 12 month build.

## ...AND THEN...

- As the building takes shape, the Working Party, which has the benefit of the skills and experience of the original ECE Board, can begin to explore the scale and nature of the management of the pub the community wants, guided by the general principles of a diverse and inclusive approach which has been key since the idea was first mooted.

## ...TOWARDS...

- ✓ Ending the debate as to whether our community glass is half full or half empty. There would be lots of glasses. They would start full and empty gradually.







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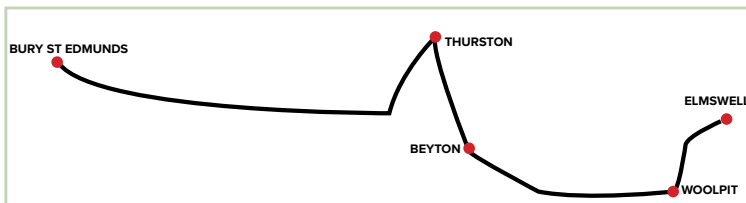
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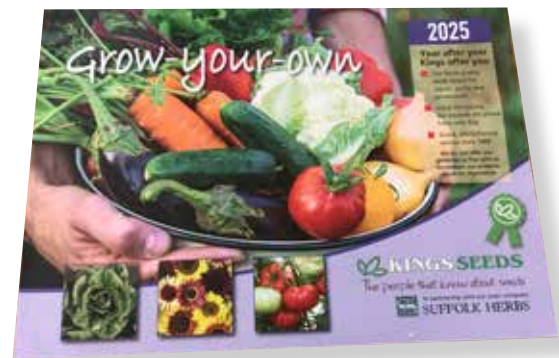
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A brochure is available at the Parish Clerk's office should site of a hard copy be required. Please note that this discount is on seeds only but potatoes can be purchased at the reduced rate of £6.35 for two or more packs but attracts a £3.75 postage charge.



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## AROUND & ABOUT

Hello Elmswell,

The Elmswell Library Friends ELF AGM is at 5.30pm on Wednesday 25th September. ELF is looking for chair, treasurer and secretary positions on the committee as the current members have been in those positions for a number of years. The friends group helps fund things like our free Sunday craft activities, our Reading Quest celebration events and our new Catch Up in the Library group and helps with fundraising events for Suffolk Libraries. To help support these groups and events it is important that new committee members come forward.

We have a new social group starting up in the library. From 11am on Thursday mornings once a fortnight we will have a group where you can come in for a cuppa with donations asked for refreshments. The Community Café group that meets on every 3rd Wednesday of the month will be meeting again after their August break at the Wesley Café at 10.30am on Wednesday 18th September.

This month's book display has moved from Paris to Nigeria including Welcome to Lagos by Chibundu Onuzo, Gaslight by Femi Kayode, Yinka, where is your husband? by Lizzie Damilola Blackburn and more.

Our exhibition is artwork by Collin Wallis. Colin has exhibited his sketches of Switzerland before but this time they are black and white sketches of churches and other buildings from England and a couple of watercolour scenes of Ware.

The Reading Quest celebration event

is on the 14th September and so if you have not managed to come in all the weeks, there are a couple now the schools are back to still come in and do some of the activities. There are bingo sheets to do and a treasure hunt to try and find all the Reading Quest characters around the library. There are not specific times to come in during September as all our wonderful Reading Quest volunteers are taking a well earned rest.

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

See you in the library soon,

*Miles*

### What's on at

#### Elmswell Library?

##### Story Time

1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday  
(except 1st one of the month)

9.10am – 9.30am every 1st Tuesday

##### Sunday Crafts

1pm – 2pm every Sunday  
(origami 1st, 15th and 29th September)

##### Lego Club

Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

**The Keep in Touch Community Café**  
10.30am on Wednesday 18th  
September at the Wesley Café  
(every 3rd Wednesday)

#### Catch Up In The Library

**\*new group\***

11am fortnightly on Thursdays  
(5th and 19th September)

### 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



## CLUBS & SOCIETIES

### ELMSWELL EXCHANGE WI

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting and then introduced our speaker for August's meeting Lucy Lewis was the first woman in 1989 to operate as a bomb disposal officer. An important part of her training at social events was to wear stockings and six pairs of knickers! Nothing to do with bomb disposal but invaluable for keeping her dignity but also able to join in with and become part of the team as often the only female she was constantly being assessed.

Lucy also told us that she was useless on the firing range and always missed the target! Just as well she was a lot better as a bomb disposal officer! She served two years with the Royal Engineers and then joined the Royal Military Police for eight years. She enjoyed her time in Germany as there was great camaraderie. Northern Ireland was a difficult and sensitive posting for many reasons. When she left the military police she had achieved the rank of Major and went on to have a family.

In 2018 she became the first female Marshal at the University of Cambridge where she leads one of the world's oldest constabularies assisting with ceremonies and freedom of speech. All the invited speakers are protected although protests may be going on in the large protest area. Jacob Rees Mogg was an invited speaker and as a protest a same sex danceathon was organised. Unfortunately for the protesters he was an hour and a half late so by the time he arrived the dancers were exhausted.

Lucy is a very interesting speaker with a great sense of humour which makes a very entertaining talk

The competition was a piece of military memorabilia including photographs. First Lesley Reed, second Sylvia Walton and third Pina Curry.

Next month we are being entertained with songs from the sixties.

The competition is memorabilia from the 1960's including photographs. Mini skirts may be worn!

New members and visitors are always welcome

Carol Blissett 242 884

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## ST JOHN'S CHURCH

### Greetings from St John's Church

Each year thousands walk the ancient routes of the Camino de Santiago in Spain, which have been popular pilgrimages since the 8th century. People walk the Camino for different reasons. Some do it for religious reasons, others to find their purpose in life, some for the physical challenge, yet others for it the wine and food or to discover the local culture.

Having been denied the opportunity to walk the Camino in 2020 due to lockdown, I am looking forward to spending a week on the Camino Inglés, a 115km route, in mid-September. For me, a pilgrimage is a symbol in action, representing the journey of the Christian life from earth to heaven. One of my favourite books is the Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan. It is a powerful allegory of the Christian life, portrayed as a journey from the City of Destruction (this current world) to the heavenly city. However, I am mainly hoping the Camino will be an opportunity to get away from the busyness of life and ministry and spend some personal time with God.

Christians believe God created us and that we find our fulfilment in him. Too often our busy lives crowd out time for God. Our aim at St John's, your friendly local parish church, is to help people reconnect with him. We meet weekly at 10:30am each Sunday. On the first Sunday in each month, we enjoy an informal family service for all ages. On other Sundays, there is a Sunday School and a talk from the Bible for adults. Twice a month we share the Lord's Supper (also known as Holy Communion). Afterwards there is tea and coffee and a time to chat. All are

warmly invited to any of our services.

Remember, you can also check out our services online on our web site, YouTube or Facebook (links are below). You can also find us at Elmsfest and at [the Lukeswood Apple Day](#).

#### Upcoming Dates:

Sun 1 Sep	9:00am	Holy Communion
Sun 1 Sep	10:30am	Family Service
Sun 8 Sep	10:30am	Holy Communion
Sun 15 Sep	10:30am	Sunday Worship
Sun 22 Sep	10:30am	Holy Communion
Sun 29 Sep	10:30am	Sunday Worship with Communion
Sun 1 Oct	9:00am	Holy Communion
Sun 1 Oct	10:30am	Harvest Family Festival
<b>Every Saturday:</b>		
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,  
elmswellrector@gmail.com  
(01359 240512)*

*Web site: [www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk](http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk)*

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## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

### TOWER

### FLOODLIGHTING

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a gratifying 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.

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

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

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

Please note the deadline for inclusion in the October Newsletter is Monday, 23rd September.

Your support is very much appreciated. Thank You.

### AUGUST 2024 SPONSORSHIP NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

18 in loving memory of Dean Goodchild. Love, Colin. xx.

### SEPTEMBER 2024 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 4 in loving memory of my darling husband Colin, on what would have been our 25th Wedding Anniversary. "Love you for ever and always". Catriona.
- 8 cherished memories of Dora Lily Handyside. "Remembered with love. God Bless". xx.
- 10 in loving memory of Gary Ferguson. "Remembered with love and great affection by all of the family".
- 13 in loving memory of my dear Mum, Olive Rose Dalton.
- 13 "Missing you every day". In memory of Theresa Evans.
- 14 in loving memory of Lesley Manning. Love, Colin. xx,
- 16 in loving memory of William Victor Manning.
- 18 in memory of dear Tess. Ron & Margaret.
- 23 for Ricky Woolnough - 36 years



ago you left us Rick. We love and miss you every day, for ever in our hearts to stay. "God Bless".

- 28 Margaret and Noel Clarke, on their Wedding Anniversary. "Remembered with great affection by all their family".
- 28 remembering Pat Burch, with much love and happiness. Will raise a glass in what would have been her 90th year. "Keep watching down Mum". With love from Dick and all the family. xxxxxx..
- 29 in memory of Betty Peachey who passed away 35 years ago.

**All bookings and payments please to :-**

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## ELMSWELL

### BAPTIST CHURCH

Our new Prime Minister has cheered us all up recently by warning that things will get worse before they get better well things certainly do need to get better soon not necessarily in the UK but the world around us the conflicts around the world need to end and peace to prevail. The violence, stabbings, and murders need to end it is sad to read that some of the murders we hear about are carried out by estranged family members, others by drug gang conflicts and some for misguided religious reasons. One of our regular prayers at The Baptist Church is for the world around us that peace will prevail, and for murder victims especially for innocent child victims of murder, there have been several in recent weeks, those three beautiful little girls in Southport a mother and three little ones killed in a fire started deliberately only a couple of weeks ago. We pray for their families can find peace why don't you join us in prayer when you have a quiet few minutes its easy just open your thoughts up the lord Jesus.

On Monday 2nd September at 2.00 PM our Ladies Friendship Group meet for their first meeting after their summer break for a cream tea preceded by Harp and Flute music by the duo Angel Delight. The Ladies group is open to all ladies they meet on the first Monday in the month for talk by someone interesting followed by a cup of tea and a piece of Margaret's home-made cake

there no charge or membership fees other than a donation for refreshments if you are new to the village and are looking for new things to do why not contact Margaret on 01359 241541 to find out more.

Food and Friends lunches resume on Thursday 12th September these lunches are aimed at the older folk in Elmswell and the surrounding area, offering a home cooked meal and sweet, cheese and biscuits with tea or coffee before and after there is not a specific charge but we ask for a donation to cover costs. If you are new to the Village or have a relative, friend or neighbour who you feel might benefit from a couple of hours out in company of others. Contact Jackie on 01359 245918 to let her know that you would like to come all senior citizens are welcome

I must emphasise that these events are open to all not just regular attendees at our services so come and join us you will be made most welcome.

At present we are able to offer a home to the Village Foodbank which is open on Monday and Friday mornings from 10.00 AM -11.00 AM

**Our services during September will be led by :-**

- 1st September Rev Robert Green (inc Communion)
- 8th September Stephen Spurgeon
- 15th September Rev Reg Craig
- 22nd September Rev Paul Hills
- 29th September Rev Norman Tharby

If you need any more information please contact our Secretary Tony on 01359 241541 text or call 07784095225 or go to our website [www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk](http://www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk)

Meanwhile thank you for taking the time to read this offering and God Bless each and everyone of you

*Dave Hollings*



## CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

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The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road,  
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Tel:01449-612946  
E-mail: [pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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.

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# NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

**September – it's time to go foraging!**



Late summer and early autumn are a great time to go out looking for edible wild food. Everywhere the hedgerows and trees are weighed down with colourful fruits and nuts. The Woodland Trust website has a very useful guide to wild foraging, showing what to look for in each month, where to find edible fruits, and how to make use of them. If you're new to foraging, a good place to start is with blackberries. They're unmistakable and are delicious eaten straight from the bush, better still take some home and make an apple and blackberry crumble! Be careful when picking them, though – the bramble protects its fruit with extremely sharp thorns and they often grow right next to stinging nettles. You may also find yourself competing for the berries with a whole variety of insects, including late-season wasps.



Hawthorns are ripening now and although you may not have considered these as edible, people used to eat the berries, known as haws, together with the leaves – traditionally called 'bread and cheese', the leaf being the bread and the berry the cheese. That may not appeal, but they do go well in jams, jellies, vinegar and ketchup. Similarly, rosehips, the seed pods of the dog rose. These are high in vitamin C and can be used to make rosehip syrup – great with ice cream.

Crab apples are another autumn fruit not tasty to eat straight off the tree, but superb in jams and jellies. Crab apples are one of the ancestors of the cultivated apple, with very small green fruit, but you would be lucky to find a true crab apple growing in the wild now, due to cross-breeding with the domesticated

apple. Most wild apples are now in fact 'feral' apples, grown from discarded domesticated varieties. Their fruit can still be delicious and is an essential ingredient in jams and jellies due to their high levels of pectin, which helps the preserve to set.

The Woodland Trust website also has some handy guidelines for sustainable and safe foraging. These include: minimise damage and take no more than you plan to eat; don't forage in sites that are sensitive or important for conservation; know what you're picking (vital for mushrooms!); leave plenty behind for the wildlife that depends on the autumn harvest and to ensure there are enough seeds left for next year's crop; don't collect rare species or dig anything up.

Next time you set off for an autumn walk don't forget to bring a bag or box with you and enjoy picking from nature's harvest!



## Apple Day at Lukeswood

September is also the time of Apple Day – our main event of the year, when we invite everyone to come along to Lukeswood, explore the orchard and join in our autumnal celebrations. Our first Apple Day was in 2010 so it's now a firm fixture in the Elmswell calendar.

The Apple Day tradition is relatively new – it was started only 34 years ago by the conservation organisation Common Ground with the idea of celebrating all the varieties of orchard fruit grown in this country, many of which have been lost. Our own Apple Day shares the aims of the original event but has widened to include a variety of activities and stalls that celebrate local food, crafts, wildlife, skills and environmental concerns. Lukeswood, where you can see Elmswell's own community orchard – Norman's Orchard, named after Norman Kenyon whose generous request allowed us to buy the land it now occupies – is a wonderful setting for Apple Day celebrations.

Come and admire the green woodworking skills on show at Bodgers' Corner, listen to the ever wondrous Wesley Ukulele Band, find out about unusual Suffolk varieties of fruit, indulge in some tasty home-made cakes



provided by the talented bakers of the Trefoil Guild, buy local produce and craft work, have a go at the tombola or some old-fashioned games (how about Guess the Weight of the Pie?) – there's something for everyone!

**Lukeswood Apple Day is on Saturday 21st September, 2.00-5.00.**



The entrance to Lukeswood is off Church Road, on the left before the School Road junction as you're heading towards the Church. The limited parking places on site are reserved for stall-holders and disabled visitors. Parking is possible along Church Road, but please be very careful crossing this busy road and avoid blocking driveways and pavements. Come on foot or bike if you can! Entrance is free to everyone – just come along and have a good time. Don't forget to bring some cash as many of our stall-holders are cash only. And don't worry if you have one cuppa too many, we do have an eco-loo available for all visitors!



Mary Feeney  
info@elmswild.org.uk





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## Jokes for the playground...











Q: What do you call a fly with no wings?

A: A walk

Q: What do you call a snail on a ship?

A: A snailor

## Walk to school scavenger hunt

bike racks		<input type="checkbox"/>	post box		<input type="checkbox"/>
stop sign		<input type="checkbox"/>	tree		<input type="checkbox"/>
a bird tweeting		<input type="checkbox"/>	park		<input type="checkbox"/>
flowers		<input type="checkbox"/>	pedestrian crossing		<input type="checkbox"/>
a red car		<input type="checkbox"/>	street light		<input type="checkbox"/>

## Back to school wordsearch



s t h e x o b h c n u l  
 e m o o r s s a l c r o  
 p v r b i o w s b r t f  
 t x o q k u c c w a r r  
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- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| school   | teacher   | classroom |
| pencil   | principal | crayons   |
| eraser   | friends   | subjects  |
| lunchbox | September | ruler     |





# ELMSWELL FOOTBALL CLUB



**ELMSWELL FC HOME GAMES**

07/09 -	ELMSFEST
14/09 - 2:30pm	Elmswell Res v Saxmundham Res
21/09 - 2:30pm	Elmswell v Halesworth Town Res
28/09 - 2:30pm	Elmswell Res v Woolverstone Res
05/10 - 2:00pm	Elmswell Res v Coplestonians Res

**AT THE BLACKBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE**



## FIRST TEAM REPORT

Four more friendlies to tell you about before we get stuck into the league.

Elmswell 2-0 Stonham Aspal. Goals from Elliot Chaplin and Hynard. Stonham were very gracious visitors and made a great effort to clean up after themselves which not all teams do. Elmswell 4-2 Coddensham Athletic. The game was a lot closer than the scoreline suggests. They are a very well drilled, organised side but we did manage to break them down in the end. Elmswell goals from Brookin, Chandler, Chaplin and Sylvester.

Elmswell Mix 4-0 Stow Falcons Res. A midweek game at The Grove gave a mix of players from both squads a runout. A brace for Jed Hughes and one each for Will Hayden and Chris Simmons.

Elmswell 1-1 Samuels. They are in the division below but have won back to back promotions. A tough game against a good young side. Tome Dinley scoring on his return to the team.

A decent preseason all round. New management and new players all pulling together to try and build something for the season ahead.

We started the season at The Blackbourne, hosting a Sporting 87 Reserve side we only got one point from last season. The first half was promising and we went in ahead at the break. The second half saw some mistakes creep into our game and Sporting took advantage. Painfully, Emerick (who played a few games for us last year) returned to bag a hattrick for the visitors. Final score 3-5 to Sporting. Elm goals from Jed Hughes and Tom Morgan. MOTM Jake Day.



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Next month's home fixtures are at the top of the page. We're back at The Blackbourne now. Come down and have a look. You can't miss us, we're in bright orange.

UP THE ELM

### RESERVES REPORT

The Reserves have been busy too. Lots of games, goals and new faces.

We played Mendlesham twice in two weeks as they stepped in at late notice when Kesgrave Kestrels had to pull out. The first game we won 1-0 with a solid performance as Stephen Shepherd got of the mark. Mendlesham had a few more players back for the next visit but so did we. Another close game finished 4-3 to Elmswell. Another goal for Shepherd and one each for Claydon, Buch and Green. Motm was tied between Buch Green and Welch.

Bramford were the visitors the following week. Another fine performance saw us romp home 5-1 winners. Goals again from Shepherd and Claydon as well as Hayden, Welch and Rolls with the pick of the bunch. MOTM shared again this week, by Ramsey and Claydon.

I sadly wasn't there for the Bacton A game but we stormed to a 4-0 lead before capitulating and allowing them to pull back to draw the game. Goals from Shepherd (5 in 5), the original Tom Morgan, Ben Green and Dean Forbes.

We start our season away to Brantham Development the day of ELMSFEST so sadly we won't see you there but we hope you have fun.



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## CITIZENS ADVICE

### Amidst changes to Winter Fuel Payments, Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk offers top tips on affording energy bills this winter.

In late July the Chancellor announced changes to the Winter Fuel Payment (WFP).

The WFP is an annual one-off payment to help pensioners pay for heating during the winter. Depending on age and if you live with somebody else who's eligible, it could provide up to £300 towards your bills.

However, the new announcement means only those receiving Pension Credit or other means tested benefits will now be eligible for WFP.

The changes might be confusing and worrying to some people who have already factored WFP into their household budget.

### That's why Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk is on hand to offer their top tips on affording energy bills this winter.

There are also steps those still entitled to the Winter Fuel Payment can take to make sure they don't miss out on this much-needed support. We know a third of people entitled to Pension Credit aren't claiming it, and it's more important than ever to apply for this benefit if you can.

Pension Credit is a weekly benefit to boost your income and is based on how much money you have coming in. If you have reached State Pension age, you might be able to apply for it.

**Check the Citizens Advice website to see if you're eligible and get instructions on how to apply.**

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

**citizens  
advice**

Mid Suffolk

## WESLEY

### UKULELE BAND

A slightly quieter month for the Ukules in August. We started with an appearance at the Nowton Village Summer Fete. The weather started damp, but then cheered up, ending with a bright, sunny and warm afternoon. Our next outing was to the Baylham Garden Fete. A lovely warm afternoon with everyone enjoying themselves and even some joining in with 'Drunken Sailor' at the end.

Friday 23rd saw us back at the Time Out Club in Fornham. To make it more interesting, we asked the guests to choose the tunes, rather than us just going through our songbook. This put us on our metal, as we had no idea what was coming up, including some songs that we don't normally play. Incidentally, the Time Out Club gig was our 99th since the group was formed in May 2021. Our 100th will be at Elmsfest on Saturday 7th September between 12 and 5pm, so please come along and help us celebrate our milestone.

This month's picture begs the question 'How many Ukules can you get under a gazebo?'

'Til next time. Take care.

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



### Share your views On... ageing in Suffolk



We want to understand what it's like to grow older in Suffolk. You can tell us about things that are supporting people to 'age well' in your community, and the challenges people can face.

Your views will feature as a part of Suffolk's Annual Public Health Report and improve local understanding of the support people need as they age.

**Follow the QR code to complete our short online form now, or visit [www.healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk/ageingwell/](https://www.healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk/ageingwell/) before Sunday 22nd September 2024.**

For help to complete the online form, or if you need to feedback another way, please call free on 0800 448 8234.



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# AROUND & ABOUT

## ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

Summer is now almost behind us and we're thinking ahead to our Autumn meetings, the first of which is on 17th September when the speaker is Bradley Morris who will give a talk entitled 'Before and After- Landscaping Ideas.'

This seems especially appropriate with so many new homes being built in the area. Many of these properties have almost completely empty gardens, with only perhaps a patch of grass and a small paved area. Hopefully this talk will give ideas and inspiration even to those of us with more mature gardens, possibly needing a 'revamp'.

Another very useful talk on 15th October will be given by Geoff Hodge, 'Pruning Made Simple.' For many of us, this is a total mystery! Whether to prune, when to prune, how to prune. No matter how many books we read, or articles we search for on the Internet, it seems so easy to make mistakes. This is definitely not to be missed.

On several occasions we have listened to excellent speakers who are then employed by club members to carry out work in their gardens. It's a good opportunity to learn about a persons' gardening philosophy. It's great when both employer and employed are in agreement about what needs to be done - it creates a valuable sense of trust.

Hoping to see lots of new members joining the club this year. All new folk will be made very welcome.

**Further information about Elmswell Gardening Club please contact Nick on 01359 242601 or e-mail: [elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com)**



An earlier display of flowers on the Station, inaugurated by Club members in 2009 and maintained ever since

### ELMSWELL ART CLUB

## 2024 ART SHOW & SALE

ORIGINAL WORKS  
BY LOCAL ARTISTS

SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup>  
& SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup>  
SEPTEMBER

10AM TO 4PM

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SCHOOL ROAD, ELMSWELL

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**Traditional Music Day**  
**Saturday 21st September 2024**  
**Stowmarket, Suffolk**

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Newmarket: **01638 665656**

Cambridge: **01223 297177**

e: [info@hartwellblinds.com](mailto:info@hartwellblinds.com)



[www.hartwellblinds.com](http://www.hartwellblinds.com)





## Making solar more affordable

If you are thinking of installing solar panels, the latest edition of the “Solar Together” scheme is now open for registration in Suffolk and offers access to high-quality solar panels and battery storage at competitive prices. Supported by Mid Suffolk District Council, the County Council, and other councils in the region, the scheme enables participants to save on solar PV installation costs while receiving guidance from a team of solar experts. To take part, you need to own your own property in Suffolk or have permission from the owner to install a solar system on the roof - small and medium-sized businesses that meet these requirements can also participate.

Register for free via the website [solartogether.co.uk](http://solartogether.co.uk) before 18th October 2024 for advice on how much you could save on your energy bills, and how much you could earn by exporting excess energy. For all households who wish to proceed, Solar Together invites trusted installers to compete to give their best price, and the scheme offers a personal recommendation based on your home and energy requirements. You can then decide whether to go ahead.

## Families living with early onset dementia

- A collaborative countywide project called “Suffolk Young Ones” runs regular social activities for families living with early onset dementia. The following events are being held in September:

**Thursday 12th September 6-7pm:**  
Family Connect – Online Chat via Zoom

**Wednesday 18th September 11am-2pm:** Visit to the Food Museum, Stowmarket

**Sunday 29th September 4-6pm**  
– Sunday Pub Club at the Ship Inn, Levington

Places must be booked in advance and are free of charge for up to 2 people per family group (max of £10 per head for Pub Club). Additional family members are welcome – charges apply.

For further information and to book, please call Jenny on 07988 705120, or email [info@communitiestogether-ea.org](mailto:info@communitiestogether-ea.org)

## Priority Services Register (PSR)

- The PSR is a free, easy-to-join UK-wide service offering extra advice and support for utility company customers with additional communication, access or safety needs. Services include, for example, being prioritised for reconnection or for receiving a generator during a gap in normal service due to a power cut or burst watermain. Full eligibility details are available on the website and include if you have a disability, a long-term medical condition, have reached state pension age, are

pregnant or have young children, do not speak or read English well, or need short-term support such as after a stay in hospital.

Enter your details on the website - <https://www.theprs.co.uk> - and they will be passed on to the utility companies accordingly.

## Monthly drop-ins

Jen and Sarah hold monthly drop-in sessions, alternating between the Wesley Café in Elmswell, and Teacups Café in Woolpit, where we're pleased to meet with residents and answer any questions. MSDC's main areas of responsibility include Development Control (Planning), Recycling & Waste Disposal, Housing, Environmental Health, Licensing, Election Administration, and Public Realm (management of Council land). County Councillor Andy Mellen also joins us when he can.

The next dates are:

**Thursday 19th September  
10-12**

**at Teacups**

**Tuesday 22nd October  
10-12**

**at The Wesley**

## District Councillors for Elmswell and Woolpit:

Councillor Sarah Mansel	07860 829517	<a href="mailto:sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk">sarah.mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk</a>
Councillor Jen Overett	07928 512591	<a href="mailto:jen.overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk">jen.overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk</a>

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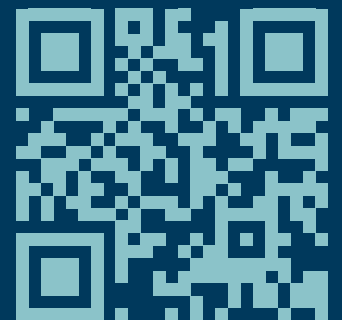
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*The Quality Equipment team trying not to show their nerves while Graham Baker gets them organised*

## ELMSWELL FOX BOWLS CLUB

The 2024 bowls season is almost over and the Foxes have done extremely well. Dick Burch's Thursday team were, sadly, overhauled by Haughley who, seeing that we could be caught, dropped their regular players for Division One players in the Stowmarket League, and pipped us at the post. We will get promoted but as runner's up and not League Champions. Haughley doesn't have a team in Division 1 of the Bury League so they can keep their squad together so that is one game we are likely to lose next season! Mark Edwards' Tuesday team is sitting at the top of the Area D division 2 and will go up as Champions. As might Pete Edmonds' Monday team if they can take 4 points from the re-arranged match at, guess where, Haughley. If we meet their 'normal' team we should have no problem but if they pack it full of top players then, we too, will go up as runners-up.



The highlight of the month was, without doubt, the Friendly against our Sponsors, Quality Equipment, which was so much fun that a re-match has already been arranged. Q.E. generously arranged a buffet in the Fox afterwards and a really good time was had by all. The Club is hoping to unearth a couple of 'naturals' amongst the staff to play alongside Glynn, Graham and Jamie!



On Sunday, September 1st, we will hold our finals Day when the club competitions will be determined. Jenny Murray has done a brilliant job organising the competitions again this season and Sunday will see them all completed. I will bring you a full list of winners next month, hopefully with photos. A good opportunity for anyone interested in Bowls to come along and see what it is all about.  
*Peter Edmonds, E.F.B.C. 07860 395720*

## OVER 55'S CLUB

Following our visit to the Hut with everyone seating down for morning coffee and biscuits which was then followed by Fish & Chips and rolls and butter most of our party decided to move out side to take in the glorious sunshine and to take a wander along the prom paying a visit to the nearby ice cream stall where there was a brisk trade .

A bit later on every body gathered for afternoon tea and cake served by the committee ,thanks to all those who did the washing up during the day

The meeting on August was a Bingo Session but it was not well attended may be it was listed in last months report as the 18th

On August 29th we replaced the day out with music by 'Yesterday' possibly a photo next time.

Into September we will be at Elmsfest with a Tombola stall then on September 12th we will be holding our Harvest Supper so if you havent booked please ring me on 241002 to reserve a place.

The next meeting on September 26th we welcome 'Suzie Q' as our entertainer.

Up to date details are in the listings at the rear of the Newsletter



*Diann 241002*

*Felixstowe Promenade in 1910*



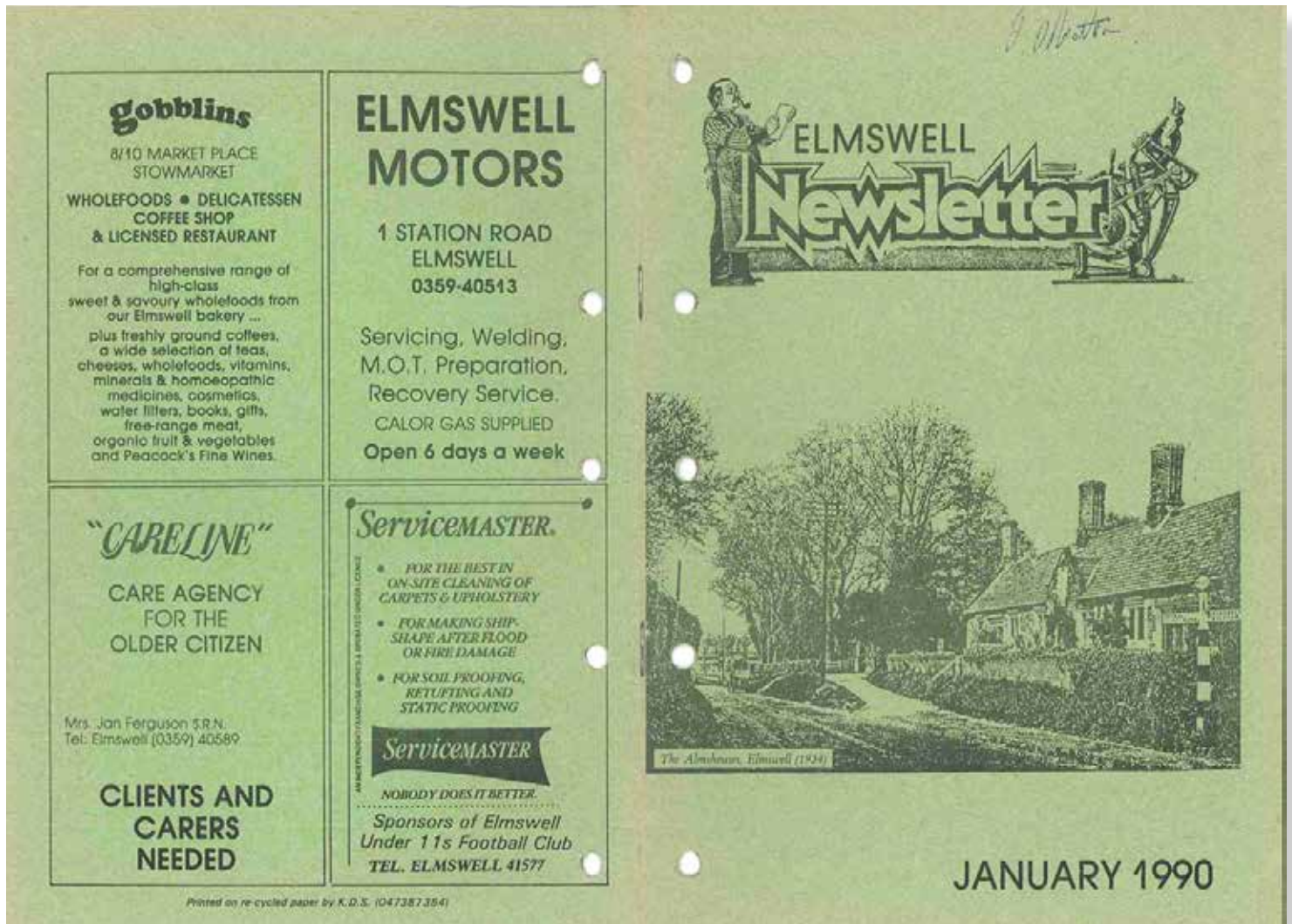


The Amenities Association is the charity that owns, on the community's behalf, the Memorial Library and the Grove Lane playing field. It has also published the Elmswell Newsletter for the past 35 years or so.

The Trustees are appointed from various village organisations, as defined by the Charity Commission, together with up to 14 village residents elected at the AGM.

At a meeting of Trustees held on 31<sup>st</sup> July, the following matters were amongst those discussed.

- The 2023 Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission was authorised for signature and subsequent submission to the Charity Commission
- The Treasurer reported a balance of some £36,000 with no anticipated extraordinary call on funds. Accordingly, it was agreed that £25,000 be paid across to the Parish Council on the understanding that it will be specifically dedicated to the proposed refurbishment and development of the fenced play areas on Crown Mill.
- The protracted matter of the Lease renewal with Suffolk County Council on the Memorial Library, including the Licence to Underlet to Suffolk Libraries IPS, is completed and rental payments are up to date.
- Heads of Terms have been agreed with the newly emerging Elmswell Community Football Club towards a 25 year Lease on the Grove Lane playing field. The Lease will allow the Club to obtain grant aid for the development of the facilities there and help relieve the pressure on Blackbourne in light of the growing number of teams and players, particularly young boys and girls, in the village.
- The Elmswell Newsletter continues to attract advertising and generate a surplus of income over expenditure despite rising printing costs and an ever-increasing print run as the village expands.
- The £20,000.00 invested by the Association in shares in Elmswell Community Enterprise towards supporting the Elmswell Tavern community pub project is to be transferred to the Parish Council's ring-fenced fund dedicated to the same ends.



The first professionally printed Newsletter in January 1990 was produced by KDS Printers, now known as Keith Avis Printers, have done a superb job ever since...404 magazines and counting



# WESLEY WALL PICTURES



Over recent months we have featured some of the canvas-print pictures which now enliven the Meeting Room at Wesley. The village is indebted to Paul Peachey and to Trevor Sadler whose extensive collections of postcards featuring Elmswell provided the source material along with material lodged by the late Norman Kenyon and others on the Elmswell History Group website and detail gleaned from the 'Elmswell A Marker for the Millennium' book.

One of the most striking images is of Cornelius Flowers Mathews standing in front of the first Methodist chapel, built in the year of his birth.

In our June edition we mention a photograph of his grandson, Peter, but failed to include it.

Here is Peter Mathews in front of the later building which had been sufficiently far advanced when Cornelius died to allow his funeral to be held there.



Two of the canvas prints, including that of Cornelius, hung in the Meeting Room at Wesley



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The BWMA meets throughout the year to monitor developments and progress at the Blackbourne and at Wesley so that it can advise the Parish Council as to how best to administer these community resources.

There are 24 members comprising delegates from groups who use the facilities together with Councillors and up to 7 residents elected or co-opted.

At a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August, the following was noted:

- The Meeting viewed the final proofs of the two remaining wall decorations for the Meeting Room at Wesley of which delivery is expected soon.
- The scheme to install more solar P.V. units and battery storage at Blackbourne is specified and priced and awaits a Mid Suffolk funding decision.
- Work begins soon to link the new Ashfield Road housing estate into Blackbourne along a path to be created where the storage container recently stood. This ties in with the wider scheme to rationalise footpaths from the north of the village all the way through to Lord's Bridge and beyond.
- The Meeting viewed plans of the new 6 acres adjacent to Blackbourne and a diagram of the levelling, draining and seeding works proposed for the 2 fields which will offer sport and recreation space works Funding approaches are being made.
- There is no confirmation as yet that Mid Suffolk will repeat the grant aid which contributed to last year's successful 'Winter Warmer' sessions at Wesley, but Members agreed that subsidy should still be considered given the social benefits which accrued
- Indicative plans were displayed which show what might be done in terms of scale and orientation regarding the play facilities at Crown Mill on which members have been consulted. There have been more voices against extending nearer to Station Road because of traffic fumes. The use of the village's 2<sup>nd</sup> Crown Mill play area site is under active consideration and will be the subject of a Pre-Application Planning discussion with Mid Suffolk. When a firm design proposal is to hand it will be the subject of consultation prior to going through the Planning process as necessary. It was noted that the split provision by age might be problematic for families with children spanning both age categories, but that, as there is no current provision for toddlers, the end result is beneficial allowing that there is no perfect solution. The possibility of turning some of the informal grassed area fronting Station Road over to a second play area has not found support given the dramatic visual change it would present at the heart of the village. The 5 households nearest to the proposed new installation on the existing play area were informed by letter as soon as it became clear that this might be an option.
- The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust has forwarded a plaque marking their donation in 2002 which paid for the re-roofing of the Wesley chapel. This will be installed next to the foundation stones in the wall of the coffee shop.
- It having been agreed that, when the E.C.E. is dissolved, its members will form the Elmswell Tavern Management Association, ETMA, Members agreed that representation of the new body should remain as is. It was noted that the share redemption process was going well with many shareholders making donations. Eleven contractors have expressed an interest in building it from which five have been selected for invitation to invited to tender.

*Peter Edmonds, Secretary  
edmondspeterj@gmail.com*

## THE BLACKBOURNE & WESLEY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

# The AGM of the Association

will be held in public at

**Wesley**

**School Road**

**Elmswell IP30 9EE**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**

**Beginning at 7.30 pm.**

**The Meeting invites the election of  
up to 4 Elmswell residents  
to the Management Committee.**

**Nominations to the elected positions are  
invited to the Secretary, as below, not later  
than Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

**Nominations and all enquiries to  
The Secretary to the Association**

**Peter Edmonds**

**[edmondspeter@gmail.com](mailto:edmondspeter@gmail.com)**

**Little Acre, Ashfield Road,**

**Elmswell IP30 9HJ**



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**[wade.andrew63@gmail.com](mailto:wade.andrew63@gmail.com)**





The Parish Council schedules a meeting for 11 months of the year and pencils-in August should sufficient business come forward which requires Councillors' formal input.

This year there was no need to convene an August meeting although the work of the Council continues through individual councillors and the Clerk's office which remains open every weekday as usual to deal with day-to-day issues related to running Blackbourne and Wesley, the Taxi-Bus scheme, etc as well as management of the larger projects in hand.

Meanwhile, councillors and staff have recently been involved with other tasks and initiatives, including the following:

### Footpath / cycle path link at Blackbourne.

From the formal inception in 2017 of a scheme for development of 'up to 120 houses' on land adjacent to White House Barns on Ashfield Road, there was always to be a way through for pedestrians and cyclists into Blackbourne. This links in with the more recent initiative to provide good off-road links from the north of the village at Grove Lane through to Lords Bridge at Eastern Way. Joint funding from SCC and the Parish Council is in place to take this forward, anticipating the increased pressure for residents to avoid private car use as our roads become busier and in line with the increased frequency of railway crossing gates closures when Haughley Junction improvements happen and there is a lot more freight traffic through Elmswell. The link is now complete in advance of the developer quitting the site.

Meanwhile, surveys have been undertaken towards costing the task of levelling, draining and seeding the

recreation areas and grants are being sought including from Suffolk FA.



The new path from the housing estate into Blackbourne.

16.09.2024



The layout at Blackbourne incorporating Turners' Field and the new access

## Crown Mill play areas

Revised proposals are sought from 3 major play area contractors towards the possibility of 2 fenced sites on the village's play areas at Crown Mill to accommodate the increased demand from our growing population and the lack of suitable provision for toddlers and pre-school children on the existing site which has served well since 2006 but is in need of replacement. A grant of £25,000.00 has been received from the Amenities Association towards the extra cost of a new site.

## Elmswell Tavern

As the formal process of dissolving the ECE Community Benefit Society, which successfully kick-started the village's community pub project, proceeds, Tender documents are being prepared for consideration by 5 suitably experienced local contractors selected from those who expressed an interest in taking on the project.

## Community Affordable Homes

Following the advice contained in the Options Report commissioned from solicitors who are specialists in this field, a site valuation has been commissioned from a chartered surveyors' practice with experience in dealing with Registered Housing Providers (RP's). This will then allow negotiations with local RP's towards the development of a scheme for public consultation.

## Taxi-Bus

Suffolk County Council has made grants from the Government's Bus Service Improvement Plan fund including to the Elmswell based pilot taxi-bus scheme involving Thurston, Woolpit and Beyton. This has allowed a reduction in the return fare to Bury to £4.00.

## Roads

Representations have been made through Andy Mellen, our County Councillor confirming the wide-ranging and well justified dissatisfaction regarding SCC Highways activities in the village. The problems are, clearly, experienced

County-wide. It has been suggested that consultation with the community prior to road closures could save considerable danger and inconvenience. Also, that community input into prioritising resurfacing works might stop the apparent waste of money in treating residential streets whilst crucial areas such as at Shop Corner remain in a dangerously poor state and subjected to frequent re-visits for short-term patching works.

## Care Home Planning application

On 28th August a Mid Suffolk Planning Committee meeting refused the application on land at School Road for the erection of a care home village comprising a 66 bedroom care home, 37 extra-care bungalows and 3 almshouses plus ancillary buildings on land off School Road between the recently built Bloor Homes development and St John's church. The Parish Council's written objection was reinforced by the Clerk's representations to the Meeting which echoed the many personal comments made by residents against the scheme.

## Audit

The Government-appointed External Auditors have completed their review of the Annual Governance

and Accountability Return and published their Report on Elmswell Parish Council for the 2023 /2024 accounting year. They confirm a sound system of internal control and effective financial management. They found no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with the law, regulations or Proper Practices. Taking account of the internal audits carried out in the year they assessed risks and agreed that management of such was appropriate. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit is published in the Parish Council notice board at Crown Mill with the supporting Statements, Report and Certificate. These can also be found on the Council's website, as below.

## Next meeting

The next ordinary Meeting is scheduled for Monday 16th September, 7.30 at Blackbourne. The Agenda is posted on the Council's website at [elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://elmswell.suffolk.cloud) and in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

*Peter Dow*

*Clerk to the Council*

*01359 244134*

*[clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)*

# Festival of Remembrance

The Apex, Bury St Edmunds

8th November 2024, 7:30pm

Featuring RAF Honington Voluntary Band and Military Wives' Choir

Tickets £13.50 + £2 Booking Fee

Tickets available from [theapex.co.uk](http://theapex.co.uk) or RBL Member (01359 271685)

C Group, Suffolk Royal British Legion

Registered charity number: 219279



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](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)

Tel. 244134 [www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud](http://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.

Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
16th	21st	18th	16th	20th

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



# VILLAGE INDEX



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

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	eea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	Eddie Douglas	edward.douglas2@gmail.com	
Baby & Toddler Group		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Bingo at Blackbourne	Brian Hawes		07761 125093
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	07860 395720
Blackbourne – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Mike North	mcnorth8@gmail.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Community Speed Watch	Marie Spampinato	mariespampinato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Andy Mellen	Andy.Mellen@suffolk.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Ben Whatling (Captain)	benwhatling@mail.com	07760 174811
Cubs	Mark Pernot	mark.pernot@gmail.com	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansell@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Jen Overett	Jen.Overett@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange Afternoon WI	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	242884
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Chris Edmonds	edddd101@gmail.com	
Fox Bowls Team bowls at Blackbourne	Rob Dann	rccsdann@btinternet.com	07917 013846
Gardening Club	Nick	elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com	01359 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	Paula Reynolds / Samantha Willers	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	dc@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 262485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Sewing Bee	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	c/o Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Wesley – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
WI - evening	Tricia McNeeney	triciamcneeney@gmail.com	241197
Youth Football	Wayne	wsast@hotmail.co.uk	

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

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

# What's On in Elmswell ?



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

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

## September 2024

- 4 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Songs from the Sixties. Barry, Pete and Nicky
- 10 Elmswell WI - Journey to Citizenship
- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 \*Annual Subs Due\* ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Neil Langridge: Hop Cultivation in Suffolk
- 12 Over 55's Club Harvest Supper and Bingo
- 17 Elmswell Gardening Club 'Before and After-Landscaping ideas' by Bradley Morris Wesley 7.30pm, all welcome
- 26 Over 55's Club Susie Q entertains OPEN EVENING
- 27 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

## October 2024

- 2 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Fraud Awareness. Speaker Jane Riches
- 8 Elmswell WI - Reflexology demonstration
- 10 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday

- 10 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Barbara McElroy: Framlingham, Castle on the Hill
- 10 Over 55's Club Bingo evening
- 15 Elmswell Gardening Club 'Pruning Made Simple' by Geoff Hodge Wesley 7.30pm, all welcome
- 24 Over 55's Club Music with Gwyn Pritchard OPEN EVENING
- 25 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

## November 2024

- 6 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. History of the British Legion and the Poppy Appeal Speaker Mandi Cox-Osborne
- 7 Over 55's Club Hot Dogs followed by Bingo
- 12 Elmswell WI - SARS Suffolk Accident and Rescue Service
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Andy Peachey: Archaeology on Anglia One's Cable Route
- 21 Over 55's Club Brian Mann entertains OPEN EVENING

- 29 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome

## December 2024

- 4 Exchange WI 2.00pm at Wesley. Christmas Celebrations. Hosted by the committee
- 5 Over 55's Club Concert by Norton Salvation Army Visitors welcome
- 10 Elmswell WI - It's Christmas
- 12 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 12 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Performers 'Chanters Jigge': Our Merry Christmas Revel – an entertaining evening of live music and seasonal songs, played on traditional instruments
- 13 Bingo - Doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30 all welcome
- 14 Over 55's Club Christmas Party followed by entertainment with Susan Jayne

## January 2025

- 9 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Members' Evening: A selection of members' own researches

## STOP PRESS

Regular sessions at Blackbourne & Wesley include:

- KARATE** with Lewis - Friday 5.00 – 7.00 [info@greatheadma.com](mailto:info@greatheadma.com)
  - JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE** – Monday & Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30 [ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com](mailto:ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com) tel. 07711 680262
  - BABY & TODDLER GROUP** - Monday mornings [elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com](mailto:elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com)
  - BATS- badminton / table tennis / pool** at Blackbourne Friday nights 7 – 9.30 [simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk](mailto:simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk)
  - BOWLS** - [barryhayward1902@gmail.com](mailto:barryhayward1902@gmail.com) tel. 240951
  - GUIDES** - [elmswellguides@outlook.com](mailto:elmswellguides@outlook.com)
  - FOOTBALL** - Chris Edmonds [edddd101@gmail.com](mailto:edddd101@gmail.com)
  - RAINBOWS** - [elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com](mailto:elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com)
  - JUNIOR FOOTBALL** - [smyth98@hotmail.com](mailto:smyth98@hotmail.com) 07717 841591
  - CUBS** Tuesdays 6.15 – 7.30 - [mark.pernot@gmail.com](mailto:mark.pernot@gmail.com)
  - BEAVERS / SCOUTS** - Wednesday 5.45 – 9.15 [ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk](mailto:ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk)
  - OVER 55'S** - every other Thursday 6.30 – 10.30 Diann Armstrong tel. 241002
  - CIRCLE DANCING** - Thursdays 1.45 – 3.15 [jenlerner@gmail.com](mailto:jenlerner@gmail.com)
  - TREFOIL GUILD** - 1st Tuesday monthly [lesley.grout@btinternet.com](mailto:lesley.grout@btinternet.com)
  - MARDLE QUILTERS** - last Friday monthly [carpajak@aol.com](mailto:carpajak@aol.com)
  - MOO MUSIC** - Fridays 12.45 – 3.15 [bury@moo-music.co.uk](mailto:bury@moo-music.co.uk)
  - WI** – evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm [triciamcneeney@gmail.com](mailto:triciamcneeney@gmail.com)
  - WI** – afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett [carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk)
  - ART CLUB** at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 – 12.00 Eddie Douglas [edward.douglas2@gmail.com](mailto:edward.douglas2@gmail.com)
  - HISTORY GROUP** at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 [stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk)
  - GARDEN CLUB** at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 [elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:elmswellgadmin@btinternet.com)
  - CARPET BOWLS** – Wednesday 7pm at Wesley – [jf.boxall@btinternet.com](mailto:jf.boxall@btinternet.com)
  - COMPANIONS** – every other Friday 10 – 12 at Wesley - [linda@abbott.plus.com](mailto:linda@abbott.plus.com)
  - PILATES** – Monday & Friday mornings – [suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk](mailto:suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk)
  - BINGO** – Blackbourne, last Friday monthly doors open 6.30...eyes – down 7.30
  - ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK** first Tuesday monthly, October-June. Diana Hollins 01449 736930 [theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk](http://theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk)
- If we've missed you out, do let us know...all enquiries to Ann at the Council Office Tel. 244134 Email [clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk)

## Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: September 25th, October 23rd, November 26th.

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

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

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